

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 2001**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Louis L. Kafka*

*To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:*

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to the availability of prescription medication during an emergency.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Louis L. Kafka</i>	<i>8th Norfolk</i>
<i>Michael J. Moran</i>	<i>18th Suffolk</i>
<i>John H. Rogers</i>	<i>12th Norfolk</i>
<i>Stephen L. DiNatale</i>	<i>3rd Worcester</i>
<i>James J. Dwyer</i>	<i>30th Middlesex</i>
<i>Colleen M. Garry</i>	<i>36th Middlesex</i>
<i>Christine E. Canavan</i>	<i>10th Plymouth</i>
<i>Paul R. Heroux</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 2001**

By Mr. Kafka of Stoughton, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2001) of Louis L. Kafka and others relative to the availability of prescription medications during an emergency. Public Health.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen**

An Act relative to the availability of prescription medication during an emergency.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 Section 1: Section 2A of Chapter 17 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2010  
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the second paragraph the following  
3 paragraph:-

4 The commissioner shall implement the statewide plan for making prescription drugs  
5 available during a state of emergency pursuant to section 225 of chapter 111.

6 Section 2: Chapter 111 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2010 Official Edition, is  
7 hereby amended by inserting after section 224 the following section:-

8 Section 225. Prescription medication during an emergency

9 The department shall, in cooperation with the Massachusetts Board of Registration in  
10 Pharmacy, Division of Insurance, and the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency,  
11 develop and publicize a statewide plan for ensuring the availability of prescription medications  
12 during a state of emergency declared by the governor, that is detrimental to the public health.  
13 Such plan shall include, but not be limited to;

14 (a) allowance for early refills of prescriptions, if the current amount that a patient  
15 possesses is not expected to last beyond 10 days of the date of the declaration of emergency.

16 (b) ensuring that vehicles delivering medications to pharmacies and hospitals be given the  
17 same road access available to other emergency vehicles.

18 (c) ensuring that the system does not create a duplicate/redundant supply chain  
19 infrastructure.

20 (d) coordination among pharmaceutical manufacturers, wholesalers, distributors,  
21 pharmacists, and other industry stakeholders.

22 (e) creation of a safety net system including a toll-free number (Voice and TTY) and an  
23 internet location for citizens to contact during the emergency for assistance in locating  
24 prescription medication, in the event no medications are available to them locally.