

HOUSE No. 1929

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Shawn Dooley

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 partial fill prescribing method advisory commission.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Shawn Dooley</i>	<i>9th Norfolk</i>	<i>1/15/2015</i>
<i>Chris Walsh</i>	<i>6th Middlesex</i>	<i>10/8/2019</i>
<i>Shaunna L. O'Connell</i>	<i>3rd Bristol</i>	<i>10/8/2019</i>

HOUSE No. 1929

By Mr. Dooley of Norfolk, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1929) of Shawn Dooley, Chris Walsh and Shaunna L. O’Connell for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) relative to reducing the amount of excess prescription narcotics. Public Health.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court
(2015-2016)**

An Act relative to the partial fill prescribing method advisory commission.

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. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, there shall be a
2 special commission, known as the Partial Fill Prescribing Method Advisory Commission, to
3 investigate the feasibility of implementing a partial fill method of prescribing narcotics to
4 patients which would enable patients to fill a prescription in increments, depending on their
5 needs, and to exempt patients from paying any additional copayments to fill the remainder of
6 their prescription. The intent of this legislation is to limit the amount of narcotics dispensed and,
7 consequently, the amount of excess narcotics left over in households, thus reducing the amount
8 of prescription drug abuse by those who have access to this excess medication.

9 The commission shall consist of the secretary of the executive office of Health and
10 Human Services, or his designee; the commissioner of the Department of Public Health, or his
11 designee; the president of the Massachusetts Association of Health Plans, or his designee; 1
12 representative of a health consumer organization appointed by the attorney general; Director of

13 Medicaid or his designee; Director of the Board of Registration in Medicine, or his designee;
14 Director of the Board of Registration in Dentistry, or his designee; Director of the Board of
15 Registration in Pharmacy, or his designee; 1 member of the senate to be appointed by the senate
16 president, 1 member of the senate to be appointed by the senate minority leader; 1 member of the
17 house of representatives to be appointed by the speaker of the house; 1 member of the house of
18 representatives appointed by the house minority leader.

19 The scope of the commission shall include, but not be limited to, studying (i) the
20 feasibility of creating and administering this new process for writing and filling prescriptions and
21 how this method of prescribing medication would be implemented for all types of narcotics,
22 dosages and diagnoses, (ii) the feasibility of integrating this method of filling prescriptions into
23 the processing of pharmacy claims by public and private health insurance entities, (iii) the ability
24 of this method to effectively reduce the amount of excess prescription narcotics available to be
25 abused by those who do not have a prescription and have no medical need to take said
26 medication.

27 The commission shall submit its findings, along with any draft of legislation, to the joint
28 committee on public health, the joint committee on health care financing, the joint committee of
29 mental health and substance abuse and the clerks of the house of representatives and the senate
30 on or before June 1, 2016.