

# **HOUSE . . . . . No. 3995**

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, February 11, 2016.

The committee on Public Health to whom was referred the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1960) of Denise C. Garlick and others relative to the safe handling of certain hazardous drugs, reports recommending that the accompanying bill (House, No. 3995) ought to pass.

For the committee,

KATE HOGAN.

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3995**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

An Act relative to the safe handling of hazardous drugs.

*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. Chapter 111 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2014 Official Edition,  
2 is hereby amended by adding after section 235, the following new section:-

3           Section 236. (a) As used in this section, the following words shall have the following  
4 meanings:—

5           “Antineoplastic drug”, a chemotherapeutic agent that controls or kills cancer cells.

6           “Hazardous drugs”, shall include any drug identified by the national institute for  
7 occupational safety and health at the centers for disease control or any drug that meets at least  
8 one of the following six criteria: Carcinogenicity, teratogenicity or developmental toxicity,  
9 reproductive toxicity in humans, organ toxicity at low doses in humans or animals, genotoxicity,  
10 or new drugs that mimic existing hazardous drugs in structure of toxicity.

11           (b) The Department of Public Health shall promulgate regulations for the handling of  
12 antineoplastic and other hazardous drugs in health care facilities. Said regulations shall consider

13 input from hospitals, organizations representing health care personnel, other stakeholders and  
14 shall consider reasonable time for facilities to implement new regulations. The regulations will  
15 be consistent with provisions adopted by the national institute for occupational safety and  
16 health's 2004 alert on preventing occupational exposures to antineoplastic and other hazardous  
17 drugs in health care settings and updates. The department's regulations may incorporate updates  
18 and changes to the institute's guidelines as made by the centers for disease control and  
19 prevention. The department may by regulation establish enforcement procedures and fines for  
20 violations of the provisions of this section.