

**SENATE . . . . . No. 605**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Jason M. Lewis*

*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 to define modest meals and refreshments in prescriber education settings.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>
<i>Benjamin Swan</i>	<i>11th Hampden</i>
<i>Sonia Chang-Diaz</i>	<i>Second Suffolk</i>

**SENATE . . . . . No. 605**

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By Mr. Lewis, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 605) of Jason M. Lewis, Benjamin Swan and Sonia Chang-Diaz for legislation to define modest meals and refreshments in prescriber education settings. Health Care Financing.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

An Act to define modest meals and refreshments in prescriber education settings.

*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 1 of chapter 111N of the Massachusetts General Laws, as appearing  
2 in the 2014 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting before the definition of “Person” the  
3 following definition:-

4           “Modest Meals and Refreshments,” food and/or drinks provided by or paid for by a  
5 pharmaceutical or medical device manufacturing company or agent to a health care practitioner,  
6 the cost of which does not exceed the allowance defined by the United States General Services  
7 Administration for the Massachusetts per diem localities. The allowable amounts for modest  
8 meals and refreshments shall be updated on an annual basis in accordance with the United States  
9 General Services Administration meal allowance rates.

10           Section 2. Section 2 of chapter 111N of the Massachusetts General Laws, as appearing in  
11 the 2014 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 77, the words “ ; provided  
12 that the department shall define modest meals and refreshments through regulation”.

13           Section 3. The third paragraph of section 2 of chapter 111N of the Massachusetts General  
14 Laws, as appearing in the 2014 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting, after the words  
15 “in section 2A”, the following sentences:-

16           For the purposes of this section, presentations that occur in a manner conducive to  
17 informational communication shall prohibit the provision of and pharmaceutical or medical  
18 device manufacturing company payment for any form of alcoholic beverage. Meals and  
19 refreshments shall be provided within the context of the informational presentation, and shall not  
20 occur prior to or following the educational presentation. Presentations shall not occur in locations  
21 that are otherwise recreational in nature, including, but not limited to, resorts, sporting clubs,  
22 casinos or other vacation destinations.

23           Section 3. Section 2A of chapter 111N of the Massachusetts General Laws, as appearing  
24 in the 2014 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting, after clause (3), the following  
25 items:

26           (4) total amount spent on meals for such presentation;

27           (5) total amount spent on the venue for such presentation;

28           (6) a description of the content of such presentation;

29           (7) total number of prescriber attendees at such presentation;

30           (8) names of attendees present at such presentation;

31           (9) names and credentials of presenters at such presentation; and

32           (10) total amount spent on other items of economic value provided at such presentation.

33           Section 4. Subsection (1) of section 6 of chapter 111N of the Massachusetts General  
34 Laws, as appearing in the 2014 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding the following  
35 sentence:-

36           The department of public health shall collect receipts for all required reporting  
37 expenditures pursuant to this section and section 2A of this chapter.