

HOUSE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Edward F. Copping

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 punish drug distribution causing death.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Edward F. Copping</i>	<i>10th Suffolk</i>	<i>7/17/2017</i>
<i>Timothy R. Whelan</i>	<i>1st Barnstable</i>	
<i>Kevin G. Honan</i>	<i>17th Suffolk</i>	
<i>Michael O. Moore</i>	<i>Second Worcester</i>	
<i>Paul McMurtry</i>	<i>11th Norfolk</i>	
<i>Josh S. Cutler</i>	<i>6th Plymouth</i>	<i>7/20/2017</i>
<i>Carole A. Fiola</i>	<i>6th Bristol</i>	<i>7/24/2017</i>
<i>Danielle W. Gregoire</i>	<i>4th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Frank A. Moran</i>	<i>17th Essex</i>	<i>7/24/2017</i>
<i>Shaunna L. O'Connell</i>	<i>3rd Bristol</i>	<i>7/24/2017</i>
<i>Shawn Dooley</i>	<i>9th Norfolk</i>	<i>7/21/2017</i>
<i>Hannah Kane</i>	<i>11th Worcester</i>	
<i>Randy Hunt</i>	<i>5th Barnstable</i>	
<i>Mathew Muratore</i>	<i>1st Plymouth</i>	
<i>James J. Dwyer</i>	<i>30th Middlesex</i>	
<i>John J. Lawn, Jr.</i>	<i>10th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Nick Collins</i>	<i>4th Suffolk</i>	<i>7/24/2017</i>
<i>Marc T. Lombardo</i>	<i>22nd Middlesex</i>	

HOUSE No.

By Mr. Coppinger of Boston, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Edward F. Coppinger and others relative to the manufacturing, dispensing, distribution, or sale of certain controlled substances that result in death. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
(2017-2018)**

An Act to punish drug distribution causing death.

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 265 is hereby amended by adding after section 13½ the following
2 section: -

3 Whoever commits manslaughter through the manufacturing, dispensing, distribution, or
4 sale in violation of any controlled drug in Class A or Class B as set forth at section 31 of Chapter
5 94C, or any controlled drug analog thereof, in violation of Chapter 94C, shall be punished by
6 imprisonment in the state prison for not less than 5 years and not more than 20 years. For the
7 purposes of this section, the person’s act of manufacturing, dispensing, distribution, or sale of a
8 substance is the cause of death when:

9 (a) The injection, inhalation or ingestion of the substance is an antecedent but for
10 which the death would not have occurred; and

11 (b) The death was proximately caused by a person who manufactured, dispensed,
12 distributed or sold such substance.