

SENATE No. 1320

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Patrick M. O'Connor

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 conduct a public health study of synthetic drugs in the commonwealth.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Patrick M. O'Connor</i>	<i>Plymouth and Norfolk</i>	
<i>Donald F. Humason, Jr.</i>	<i>Second Hampden and Hampshire</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>

SENATE No. 1320

By Mr. O'Connor, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1320) of Patrick M. O'Connor and Donald F. Humason, Jr. for legislation to conduct a public health study of synthetic drugs in the commonwealth. Public Health.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court
(2019-2020)**

An Act to conduct a public health study of synthetic drugs in the commonwealth.

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. The department of public health is hereby authorized and directed to
2 conduct a comprehensive study of synthetic drugs, as well as their use, effects, prevalence, and
3 health implications. For the purposes of this act, the definition of the term “synthetic drug” shall
4 include, but not be limited to, synthetic opioids, fentanyl, carfentanil, synthetic cocaine, bath
5 salts, MDMA, synthetic marijuana, and synthetic psychedelics. The department shall investigate
6 and report on the use, effects, prevalence, and health implications of synthetic drugs in the
7 Commonwealth. The department of public health shall collect data on the types of synthetic
8 opioids, historical rates of usage and prevalence, as well as physical, mental, and emotional short
9 and long term impacts of the drug. The department of public health shall develop strategic and
10 legislative recommendations to reduce the use of synthetic drugs by way of public awareness
11 campaigns, educational curriculum, and rehabilitative therapies. The department of public health
12 shall file a report of its study, including its recommendations and drafts of legislation, with the
13 clerks of the Senate and House of Representatives on or before December 1, 2021.