

**JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY
BILL SUMMARY**

BILL NO. H2013

TITLE: An Act relative to drug induced homicide

SPONSOR: Rep. Jeffery R. Turco

COSPONSORS: None

HEARING DATE: May 6, 2025

PRIOR HISTORY: H1781 (2023-2024)

SENATE BILLS: S1225 (O'Connor)

CURRENT LAW: Section 31 of Chapter 94C of the General Law designates the classes and types of prohibited drugs under the Controlled Substances Act. Class A primarily includes opioids and derivatives of opioids. Class B includes methamphetamines, opium poppy and poppy straw. Class C includes Psilocybin, Clonazepam, and Diazepam. Class D includes Marijuana. Class E includes all prescription drugs not otherwise listed in the classes.

Section 34A of Chapter 94 provides for a good faith exception to parole violations and possession of controlled substances charges if someone is seeking medical help for themselves or another.

BILL SUMMARY: Sections 1 and 2 - Impose a life sentence on anyone who, while trafficking or unlawfully distributing a Class A controlled substance, knowingly or intentionally provides any amount of a Class A controlled substance which results in death and includes a good faith exception if they attempt to get medical assistance for an overdose victim.

Section 3 - Establishes a permanent commission to oversee the effectiveness of drug induced homicide laws and review every drug induced homicide conviction in the Commonwealth. The commission consists of: (i) the Secretary of EOPSS or designee; (ii) the Chief Justice of the Trial court or designee; (iii) the President of the Massachusetts District Attorney's Association or designee; (iv) the President of the Massachusetts Bar Association or designee; (v)

the colonel of the Massachusetts State Police or designee; (vi) the president of the Massachusetts Police Chiefs Association or designee; (vii) 1 member of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; (viii) 1 member of the Senate appointed by the Senate President; (ix) 1 member of the House of Representatives appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives; (x) 1 member of the Senate appointed by the Senate Minority Leader; (xi) 1 member appointed by the Attorney General; and (xii) 3 members appointed by the Governor who have expertise in substance use and recovery, racial justice and law enforcement respectively.