

SENATE No. 1015

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Barry R. Finegold

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 passage of the accompanying:

An Act relative to prescription drug distribution.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Barry R. Finegold

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Second Essex and Middlesex

SENATE No. 1015

By Mr. Finegold, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1015) of Barry R. Finegold for legislation relative to prescription drug distribution. Public Health.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

An Act relative to prescription drug distribution.

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 18 of chapter 94C of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2010
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the first paragraph, as amended by section
3 4 of chapter 244 of the Acts of 2012, the following paragraph:-

4 Nothing in this subsection shall be interpreted to prohibit a retail pharmacy operating
5 within the commonwealth from filling prescriptions for a narcotic substance contained in
6 Schedule II of section 3 to residents of states other than Maine and the states contiguous with the
7 commonwealth, provided, however, that:

8 (1) the pharmacy is licensed for retail by the commonwealth, and, if applicable, registered
9 with the appropriate regulatory authorities in the state from which the prescription is received,
10 and the United States Drug Enforcement Administration as applicable, for the dispensing of
11 controlled substances;

12 (2) the prescription is filled by a pharmacist licensed and registered in the state from
13 which the prescription originates, if the state of the prescription’s origin requires such
14 registration and licensing, and was written by a physician licensed to practice medicine and
15 registered in the same state or a contiguous state to where the prescription is to be delivered, and
16 registered under federal law to write prescriptions;

17 (3) the prescription is received by the retail pharmacy via mail or commercial carrier, or
18 through an equivalent electronic means as may be permitted by federal law;

19 (4) a registered pharmacist filling a prescription under this subsection shall determine, in
20 accordance with professional standards and personal judgment, that such prescription is authentic
21 and valid, legitimate and legal in the state from which it is received, and shall verify the
22 prescription by telephonic or other means. A pharmacist shall not fill a prescription for which
23 verification cannot be obtained; any delivery of controlled substances to residents of another

24 state is in full compliance with all laws and regulations of that state as pertaining to the issuance
25 and filling of prescriptions;

26 (5) the pharmacy shall comply with all reporting requirements of the state to which the
27 prescription is delivered, including but not limited to, enrollment in and adherence to the rules,
28 regulations and requirements of the state's prescription monitoring program, or any program
29 equivalent thereto, where applicable; and

30 (6) any substances delivered pursuant to this subsection are delivered via mail or by a
31 commercial carrier to a verified address in the state of residence of the person for whom the
32 prescription was written, and may not within the territory of the Commonwealth enter into the
33 hands of any person not directly associated by employment or subcontract with the United States
34 Postal Service or commercial carrier selected for this purpose.