

HOUSE No. 1417

By Mr. Armstrong of Plymouth, petition of the Massachusetts State Pharmaceutical Association for legislation to establish the emergency drug distribution committee and to provide for the distribution of drugs, medicines, vaccines and all other forms of medication during emergencies. Public Health.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Fifty-Eight.

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE EMERGENCY DRUG DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE AND PROVIDING FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF DRUGS, MEDICINES, VACCINES AND ALL OTHER FORMS OF MEDICATION DURING AN EMERGENCY.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 There shall be an emergency drug distribution committee,
2 consisting of the commissioner of public health, who shall be
3 the chairman, the director of the division of food and drugs,
4 the director of communicable diseases, the director of hospital
5 licensing, of the Massachusetts department of public health;
6 the president of the Massachusetts medical society; the presi-
7 dent of the state board of registration in pharmacy; the chair-
8 man of the state board of registration in medicine; and the
9 chairman of the state board of registration in nursing.

10 The committee shall be empowered to declare the existence
11 of an emergency requiring in the interest of the public health
12 and public welfare the proper distribution of drugs, medicines,
13 vaccines and all other forms of medication, in order that there
14 may be available the drugs, medicines, vaccines and all other
15 forms of medication required during such an emergency.

16 When such an emergency has been declared to exist by said
17 committee, the director of the division of food and drugs of the
18 Massachusetts department of public health shall have the re-

19 sponsibility of making the necessary allocation and distribution
20 of the drugs, medicines, vaccines and all other forms of medica-
21 tion required during the emergency.

22 The said director of the division of food and drugs is hereby
23 authorized to make all necessary rules and regulations to properly
24 carry out the provisions of this act. Any one who violates these
25 rules and regulations shall be punished by a fine of five hundred
26 dollars.

27 Any person registered under the provisions of chapter one
28 hundred and twelve, who violates any rule or regulation made
29 hereunder, shall be punished as provided for in section sixty-
30 one of said chapter one hundred and twelve.