

By Mr. Farrell of Worcester (by request), petition of Edward R. Greenwood for prohibiting the addition of fluorine, iodine, vanadium or any of their compounds or any other substance to public drinking water for the purpose of affecting the bodily or mental functions of the consumer. Public Health.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Sixty-Seven.

AN ACT PROHIBITING THE ADDITION OF FLUORINE, IODINE, VANADIUM OR ANY OF THEIR COMPOUNDS OR ANY OTHER SUBSTANCE TO PUBLIC DRINKING WATER FOR THE PURPOSE OF AFFECTING THE BODILY OR MENTAL FUNCTIONS OF THE CONSUMER.

1 *Whereas*, Water is necessary for human life and our citizens
2 are dependent upon a safe public water supply, the introduc-
3 tion of any substance for purposes other than making the water
4 safe, perverts the intended purpose of the public water supply ;
5 and

6 *Whereas*, The introduction into the public water supply of
7 fluorine, iodine, vanadium, or any of their compounds or any
8 other substance for the purpose of affecting the bodily or men-
9 tal functions of consumers constitutes in effect the unlicensed
10 practice of medicine by municipalities and public agencies in
11 the area of non-communicable disease where voluntary medi-
12 cine and professional supervision are traditional ; and

13 *Whereas*, The right of the individual to decide what he shall
14 take into his body is inalienable, so long as its exercise does
15 not infringe the rights of others to protection against com-
16 municable diseases ; and

17 *Whereas*, Any medicine proposed for administration via the
18 public water supply can better be administered on a voluntary,
19 individual basis ; and

20 *Whereas*, It is unreasonable to expect citizens to submit en
21 masse to treatment they could not be compelled to accept indi-
22 vidually ; and

23 *Whereas*, Mass medication cannot ignore the possibility of
24 mass side effects or unexpected reactions due to variations in
25 individual water intake, individual diet, individual reactions to
26 drugs; and

27 *Whereas*, The mass administration of drugs through the
28 water supply presents a concept of water treatment which, if
29 generally accepted would seriously invade the spiritual and
30 moral right of the individual to self-determination in matters
31 concerning his own person.

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

1 Chapter 111 of the General Laws is hereby amended by add-
2 ing section 5H to read as follows:— No person shall add, or
3 cause to be added to public water supplies fluorine, iodine,
4 vanadium, or any of their compounds, nor shall any other sub-
5 stance be added to public drinking water, if the express pur-
6 pose of such substances is to affect the bodily or mental func-
7 tions of the consumer.

8 This section shall not be construed as limiting or altering
9 the provisions of section five G relative to the requirements
10 for maintaining "a safe water supply".