

HOUSE No. 2554

By Mr. Craven of Boston, petition of James J. Craven, Jr., relative to increasing the penalties for the unlawful possession of certain drugs. Social Welfare.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy.

AN ACT INCREASING PENALTIES FOR UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF CERTAIN DRUGS.

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 94 of the General Laws is hereby amended by strik-
2 ing out section 205, as appearing in section 1 of chapter 95 of
3 the acts of 1958, and inserting in place thereof the following
4 section:—

5 *Section 205.* Whoever, not being a licensee under section one
6 hundred and ninety-eight B, a pharmacist, a physician, a vet-
7 erinarian, a dentist, a nurse acting under the direction of a
8 physician, an employee of an incorporated hospital acting un-
9 der the direction of its superintendent or official in immediate
10 charge, or a common carrier or messenger when transporting
11 any narcotic drug between persons mentioned in this section in
12 the same package in which the drug was delivered to him for
13 transportation, is in possession of any narcotic drug, other than
14 heroin, except by reason of a prescription lawfully and properly
15 issued, shall be punished by a fine of not less than five hundred
16 dollars nor more than ten thousand dollars or by imprisonment
17 in the state prison for not more than ten years, or in a jail or
18 house of correction for not less than six months nor more than
19 three years.

