

[Similar Matter Filed During Past Session —  
See Senate No. 455 of 1977].

**SENATE . . . . . No. 458**

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By Mr. Backman, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 458) of Jack H. Backman for legislation to regulate the use of psychotropic drugs in facilities of the Department of Correction. Human Services and Elderly Affairs.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy-eight.

**AN ACT REGULATING THE USE OF PSYCHOTROPIC DRUGS IN FACILITIES  
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION.**

*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 127 of the General Laws is hereby amended by  
2 adding after section 17 the following section:—

3 *Section 17A.* No person shall administer or cause to be ad-  
4 ministered in any penal institution, jail or house of correction  
5 or any other facility under the supervision of the department  
6 any psychotropic drug unless the department of public health  
7 certifies the drug for use in a facility of the department. No  
8 person shall administer or cause to be administered to any  
9 said inmate any said drug unless it is for the legitimate medi-  
10 cal need of the inmate.

11 For the purposes of this section, a psychotropic drug shall  
12 be any drug, the administration or use of which may produce  
13 or may tend to produce an alteration in the mental condition,  
14 emotions, mental functioning, or behavior of a human being.

