

By Mrs. Holland of Longmeadow (by request), petition of John R. Auchter relative to the fluoridation of public water supplies and the distribution of fluoride tablets. Health Care.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

**AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE FLUORIDATION OF PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES AND
THE DISTRIBUTION OF FLUORIDE TABLETS.**

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 8C of Chapter 111 of the General Laws as most recently
2 amended by Chapter 129 of the Acts of 1976 is hereby amended
3 by striking the text of said section and inserting in place the
4 following: —

5 The department in taking cognizance of the dental health of
6 the people in the Commonwealth shall recommend such methods
7 as in its opinion are advisable to reduce or limit the prevalence
8 of dental caries and other dental diseases and defects. If the
9 commissioner determines that the dental health in any city, town
10 or district requires additional preventive measures for sound
11 dental health, he shall so notify the local board of health of his
12 findings. Such board of health, after making such inquiry and
13 other use of the consulting services of the department or elsewhere
14 as it chooses, shall, if it considers doing so in the best interest of
15 the inhabitants of the city, town or district within its jurisdiction,
16 order that fluoride tablets, rinses or other preventive measures, be
17 made available to such inhabitants free of any charge or fee. No
18 order shall be effective if it deprives such inhabitants of their
19 freedom of choice.

