

HOUSE No. 1961

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:
Brian P. Wallace

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the passage of the accompanying bill:
An Act requiring parental notice of treatment of minors for drug overdoses.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Brian P. Wallace	4th Suffolk

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 1911 OF 2007-2008.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the Year Two Thousand and Nine
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**AN ACT REQUIRING PARENTAL NOTICE OF TREATMENT OF MINORS FOR DRUG
OVERDOSES.**

Whereas, the deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is forthwith to require parental notice of a drug overdose of a minor, therefore, it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.

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 1. Section 12F of chapter 112 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2004 Official Edition, is hereby
2 amended by striking out, in lines 37 and 38, the words “minor or a proper judicial order” and inserting in place
3 thereof the following words:- minor, a proper judicial order or in case of treatment for a drug overdose, as defined
4 by department of public health regulation.

5 SECTION 2. Said chapter 112, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by inserting after section 12F the
6 following section:-

7 Section 12F ½ . Any physician or hospital that treats a person 17 years of age or younger for a drug
8 overdose, as defined by department of public health regulation, shall notify the minor’s parents or legal guardians of
9 the overdose as part of the discharge planning process for the minor. The notification shall only be made in a
10 meeting including the treating clinician and the minor’s parents or guardian. The treating clinician shall provide the
11 parents or legal guardians with the current contact information for the bureau of substance abuse services within the
12 department of public health and the substance abuse hotline operated by the department of public health.

13 SECTION 3. Within 60 days of the effective date of this act, the department of public health shall
14 promulgate a regulation defining the words “drug overdose”.

15 SECTION 4. Sections 1 and 2 shall take effect 90 days from passage.