

HOUSE No. 3599

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Christopher N. Speranzo

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 Establishing a Prescription Monitoring Program Task Force.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Christopher N. Speranzo

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

3rd Berkshire

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PRESCRIPTION MONITORING PROGRAM TASK FORCE.

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. Notwithstanding any general or special law or regulation to the contrary, in order to
2 improve the appropriate use of controlled substances and limit their misuse and diversion, there shall be
3 established a special task force to make an investigation and study of the current and potential role,
4 including the potential expansion, of the prescription monitoring program (PMP), created pursuant to
5 joint regulations of the drug control program (see 105 CMR 700.006(J)) and the board of registration in
6 pharmacy (see 247 CMR 5.04) within the department of public health. The task force shall review the
7 operation and effectiveness of similar programs in other states, consider extending the PMP data
8 collection to include scheduled drugs in addition to Schedule II, and consider how best to use this
9 information to enhance the quality and safety of patient care, health care access and affordability, and
10 public safety.

11 Section 2. The task force shall consist of 12 members, 1 of whom shall be the secretary of health and
12 human services or his designee, 1 of whom shall be the commissioner of the department of public health
13 or his designee, 1 of whom shall be the director of the office of medicaid or his designee, 1 of whom shall
14 be the senate chair of the joint committee on health care financing, 1 of whom shall be the house chair of
15 the joint committee on health care financing, 1 representative from the massachusetts hospital association,
16 1 representative from the massachusetts association of community hospitals, 1 representative from the
17 massachusetts medical society, 1 representative from the massachusetts association of health plans, 1
18 representative from the office of the attorney general, 1 representative of the massachusetts pharmacists
19 association, and 1 representative of the massachusetts independent pharmacists association. The task
20 force shall be co-chaired by the senate and house chairpersons of the joint committee on health care
21 financing and shall be convened by no later than 120 days after the effective date of this legislation.

22 Section 3. The task force shall file a report, with recommendations including proposed legislation,
23 with the clerks of the senate and the house of representatives within 120 days after it first convenes.