

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3884**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf***

*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 adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to informed consent of opioid-based prescriptions.

PETITION OF:

| NAME:                              | DISTRICT/ADDRESS:     |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <i>David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf</i> | <i>17th Worcester</i> |
| <i>Mindy Domb</i>                  | <i>3rd Hampshire</i>  |
| <i>Tricia Farley-Bouvier</i>       | <i>3rd Berkshire</i>  |
| <i>Peter Capano</i>                | <i>11th Essex</i>     |

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3884**

By Mr. LeBoeuf of Worcester, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3884) of David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf and others relative to informed consent of opioid-based prescriptions. Public Health.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court  
(2019-2020)**

An Act relative to informed consent of opioid-based prescriptions.

*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 111 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the following section:-

2 Section 238. Prior to issuing a prescription of an opioid drug which is a controlled  
3 substance as set forth in section 31 of chapter 94C, a practitioner shall discuss with the patient, or  
4 the patient's parent or guardian if the patient is under 18 years of age and is not an emancipated  
5 minor, the risks associated with the drugs being prescribed, including but not limited to: (i) the  
6 risks of addiction and overdose associated with opioid drugs and the dangers of taking opioid  
7 drugs with alcohol, benzodiazepines and other central nervous system depressants; (ii)  
8 alternative treatments that may be available; and (iii) risks associated with the use of the drugs  
9 being prescribed, specifically that opioids are highly addictive, even when taken as prescribed,  
10 that there is a risk of developing a physical or psychological dependence on opioids, and that the  
11 risks of taking more opioids than prescribed, or mixing sedatives, benzodiazepines or alcohol  
12 with opioids, can result in fatal respiratory depression.

13           The practitioner shall require the patient to sign an acknowledgement that the patient or  
14 the patient's parent or guardian, as applicable, has discussed with the practitioner the risks of  
15 developing a physical or psychological dependence on opioids and understands the risks  
16 presented by the practitioner.