

**SENATE . . . . . No. 1137**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Bruce E. Tarr*

*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 crimes relating to distribution of controlled substances causing death.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

*Bruce E. Tarr*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*First Essex and Middlesex*

**SENATE . . . . . No. 1137**

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By Mr. Tarr, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1137) of Bruce E. Tarr for legislation relative to crimes relating to distribution of controlled substances causing death. The Judiciary.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE SENATE, NO. 1025 OF 2019-2020.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

—————  
**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court  
(2021-2022)**  
—————

An Act relative to crimes relating to distribution of controlled substances causing death.

*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 94C of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 32N the  
2 following section:-

3 Section 32O. (a) A person who, while in the course of trafficking or unlawfully  
4 distributing a controlled substance as defined in section 32E, knowingly or intentionally  
5 manufactures, distributes, dispenses, delivers, gives away, barter, administers or provides any  
6 amount of a controlled substance or counterfeit substance which results in death shall be  
7 punished as murder in the second degree as defined by section 1 of chapter 265.

8 (b) Lack of knowledge of a previous health condition shall not be a defense to a violation  
9 of this section.