

Joint Committee on Public Health

Bill Summary

<u>BILL NUMBER</u>	House, No. 2051
<u>TITLE</u>	An Act to increase access to immunizations
<u>SPONSORS</u>	Representatives Sánchez of Boston, Decker of Cambridge, Gordon of Bedford, Hecht of Watertown, McMurtry of Dedham, Lawn of Watertown, Provost of Somerville, Kulik of Worthington, Kaufman of Lexington, and Peisch of Wellesley; Senators Chang-Diaz, Eldridge, Lewis, and Forry
<u>HEARING DATE</u>	Tuesday, November 17, 2015 at 10:00 AM - 05:00 PM, Gardner Auditorium
<u>PRIOR HISTORY</u>	A re-file of Senate Bill 1021 from the 2013-2014 session. Referred to the Joint Committee on Public Health. Public Hearing on 06/25/2013. Ordered to Study on 04/28/2014.
<u>CURRENT LAW</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• M.G.L. Chapter 94C is known as “The Controlled Substances Act”.• M.G.L. Chapter 94C §1 defines “practitioner” as a physician, dentist, veterinarian podiatrist, scientific investigator, pharmacy, or hospital registered to distribute, dispense, conduct research or administer a controlled substance or an optometrist registered to utilize and prescribe therapeutic pharmaceutical agents.• M.G.L. Chapter 94C §7 governs the registration of persons authorized to manufacture, distribute, dispense, or possess controlled substances. Clause (d) lists the persons not required registration that may lawfully possess and distribute controlled substances.• M.G.L. Chapter 94C §9 governs the administration and dispensing of controlled substances in the course of professional practice.

SUMMARY

Section one would amend M.G.L. Chapter 94C § 9 to authorize “qualified medical assistants under a practitioner’s direction” to administer immunizations pursuant to M.G.L. 112 § 265.

Section two would add new section 265 to Chapter 112 that defines certified medical assistant, direct supervision, and primary care provider. The Department of Public Health shall promulgate regulations governing the administration of immunizations by medical assistants. Nothing in this section shall be construed as authorizing the licensing of medical assistants.