

2017 -- H 6036

LC002264

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2017

HOUSE RESOLUTION

CREATING A SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY THE LABELING AND SALES OF HOMEOPATHIC MEDICATIONS

Introduced By: Representatives Shanley, Solomon, Cunha, and Barros

Date Introduced: March 30, 2017

Referred To: House Health, Education & Welfare

1 WHEREAS, Homeopathic treatments have increasingly been marketed in drug store and
2 supermarket aisles, alongside Food and Drug Administration-approved over-the-counter
3 medications like Tylenol and Mucinex; and

4 WHEREAS, Homeopathic remedies are regulated as drugs under the Federal Food, Drug
5 and Cosmetic Act (FDCA). However, under current Agency policy, the FDA does not evaluate
6 the remedies for safety or effectiveness and it is unclear when federal action will be taken to
7 regulate homeopathic products with misleading labels or packaging; now, therefore be it

8 RESOLVED, That a special legislative commission be and the same is hereby created
9 consisting of nine (9) members: three (3) of whom shall be members of the Rhode Island House
10 of Representatives, not more than two (2) from the same political party, to be appointed by the
11 Speaker of the House; one of whom shall be the Director of the Rhode Island Department of
12 Health, or designee; one of whom shall be the Dean of the Alpert Medical School at Brown
13 University, or designee; one of whom shall be the Associate Dean of Medicine for Public Health
14 and Policy at the Alpert Medical School at Brown University, or designee; one of whom shall be
15 the President of the Rhode Island Pharmacists Association, or designee; one of whom shall be a
16 member of the North American Society of Homeopaths, to be appointed by the Speaker, or
17 designee; and one of whom shall be a member of the general public, to be appointed by the
18 Speaker.

19 In lieu of any appointment of a member of the legislature to a permanent advisory

1 commission, a legislative study commission, or any commission created by a General Assembly
2 resolution, the appointing authority may appoint a member of the general public to serve in lieu
3 of a legislator, provided that the Majority Leader or the Minority Leader of the political party
4 which is entitled to the appointment, consents to the member of the general public.

5 The purpose of said commission shall be to make a comprehensive study and submit
6 recommendations pertaining to the labeling, sales, and placement of homeopathic remedies
7 including, but not limited to:

- 8 • The regulations and monitoring required to provide proper labeling of homeopathic
9 drugs to ensure patient safety;
- 10 • Labeling necessary to afford disclosure on the safety and effectiveness of homeopathic
11 remedies;
- 12 • Appropriate placement within retail outlets to clearly establish and differentiate between
13 homeopathic remedies and FDA approved and tested medications.

14 Forthwith upon passage of this resolution, the members of the commission shall meet at
15 the call of the Speaker of the House and organize and shall select a chairperson.

16 Vacancies in said commission shall be filled in like manner as the original appointment.

17 The membership of said commission shall receive no compensation for their services.

18 All departments and agencies of the state shall furnish such advice and information,
19 documentary and otherwise, to said commission and its agents as is deemed necessary or
20 desirable by the commission to facilitate the purposes of this resolution.

21 The Speaker of the House is hereby authorized and directed to provide suitable quarters
22 for said commission; and be it further

23 RESOLVED, That the commission shall report its findings and recommendations to the
24 House of Representatives no later than February 6, 2018, and said commission shall expire on
25 May 6, 2018.

=====
LC002264
=====

EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
HOUSE RESOLUTION
CREATING A SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY THE LABELING AND
SALES OF HOMEOPATHIC MEDICATIONS

- 1 This resolution would create a nine (9) member special legislative study commission
- 2 whose purpose it would be to study and provide recommendations on the labeling and sales of
- 3 homeopathic medication, and who would report back to the House no later than February 6, 2018,
- 4 and whose life would expire on May 6, 2018.

=====
LC002264
=====