

Offered by COUNCILOR STEPHEN J. MURPHY



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TEN

**AN ORDINANCE FURTHER REGULATING
THE REGISTRATION OF LABORATORIES AND
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS**

- WHEREAS*, In 2006, the Boston City Council passed an ordinance that requires the registration of laboratories in the city of Boston; and,
- WHEREAS*, The recent untimely death of a Northeastern laboratory researcher, as a result of cyanide poisoning, has highlighted concerns with controlling hazardous materials and dangerous chemical substances in our city's laboratories; and,
- WHEREAS*, Northeastern University is currently undergoing an internal review of the school's protocol for handling dangerous substances stored in its research laboratories; and,
- WHEREAS*, According to the Boston Globe, there have been two cases in which young scientists at local universities committed suicide using the substance in recent years; and,
- WHEREAS*, Due to the potential threat to public safety in Boston, laboratories must develop stronger policies and mechanisms to ensure proper documentaion, management, and containment of all hazardous materials and dangerous chemical substances; NOW THEREFORE

Be it ordained by the City Council of Boston, as follows that the City of Boston Code be amended by adding the following ordinance:

Section 1. CBC Chapter XI (Registration of Laboratories) is hereby amended in section 11-5C.3(a) by inserting after the first sentence:--

“The forms for registration shall require the owner-operator to certify that laboratory policies have been strictly adopted to ensure that hazardous materials are not transported in or out of laboratories and laboratory facilities unless duly authorized, employees do not carry hazardous materials on their person without authorization, and proper inventory is kept within the laboratory facility; the owner-operator shall submit to the Commissioner a general description of these policies.”

Section 2. CBC Chapter XI (Registration of Laboratories) is hereby amended in section 11-5C.6(a) by striking out “At the discretion of the Commissioner, this programmatic inspection” and inserting in place thereof:--

“The Commissioner shall also implement a program of inspection of laboratories and/or laboratory facilities to ensure the proper effectiveness, conduct, and functioning of internal policies that prevent the unauthorized transport of hazardous materials in and out of laboratories and laboratory facilities. At the discretion of the Commissioner, these programmatic inspections”

Section 3. The provisions of these sections shall be effective immediately upon passage.