

HOUSE No. 128

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Christine P. Barber

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 ensuring equal access to medical treatments essential for people with a developmental disability, intellectual disability, or autism.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Christine P. Barber</i>	<i>34th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/12/2023</i>
<i>Mindy Domb</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>	<i>1/12/2023</i>
<i>Sean Garballey</i>	<i>23rd Middlesex</i>	<i>1/23/2023</i>
<i>Josh S. Cutler</i>	<i>6th Plymouth</i>	<i>1/26/2023</i>
<i>Lindsay N. Sabadosa</i>	<i>1st Hampshire</i>	<i>1/30/2023</i>
<i>Vanna Howard</i>	<i>17th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/30/2023</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/1/2023</i>
<i>Michael D. Brady</i>	<i>Second Plymouth and Norfolk</i>	<i>2/2/2023</i>
<i>Brian M. Ashe</i>	<i>2nd Hampden</i>	<i>2/2/2023</i>
<i>Paul McMurtry</i>	<i>11th Norfolk</i>	<i>2/8/2023</i>
<i>Tricia Farley-Bouvier</i>	<i>2nd Berkshire</i>	<i>2/9/2023</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	<i>2/11/2023</i>
<i>Frank A. Moran</i>	<i>17th Essex</i>	<i>2/16/2023</i>
<i>Steven S. Howitt</i>	<i>4th Bristol</i>	<i>2/16/2023</i>
<i>Susannah M. Whipps</i>	<i>2nd Franklin</i>	<i>2/16/2023</i>
<i>David Allen Robertson</i>	<i>19th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/16/2023</i>
<i>Adrienne Pusateri Ramos</i>	<i>14th Essex</i>	<i>2/18/2023</i>

<i>Jennifer Balinsky Armini</i>	<i>8th Essex</i>	<i>2/21/2023</i>
<i>Patrick Joseph Kearney</i>	<i>4th Plymouth</i>	<i>2/22/2023</i>
<i>Natalie M. Higgins</i>	<i>4th Worcester</i>	<i>2/22/2023</i>
<i>Patricia A. Duffy</i>	<i>5th Hampden</i>	<i>2/22/2023</i>
<i>Simon Cataldo</i>	<i>14th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/23/2023</i>
<i>David Paul Linsky</i>	<i>5th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/23/2023</i>
<i>David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf</i>	<i>17th Worcester</i>	<i>2/23/2023</i>
<i>Samantha Montaño</i>	<i>15th Suffolk</i>	<i>2/24/2023</i>
<i>Patrick M. O'Connor</i>	<i>First Plymouth and Norfolk</i>	<i>3/2/2023</i>
<i>Michelle L. Ciccolo</i>	<i>15th Middlesex</i>	<i>3/2/2023</i>
<i>William J. Driscoll, Jr.</i>	<i>7th Norfolk</i>	<i>3/6/2023</i>

HOUSE No. 128

By Representative Barber of Somerville, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 128) of Christine P. Barber and others relative to ensuring equal access to medical treatments essential for people with a developmental disability, intellectual disability, or autism. Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 184 OF 2021-2022.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

—————
**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court
(2023-2024)**
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An Act ensuring equal access to medical treatments essential for people with a developmental disability, intellectual disability, or autism.

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 118E of General Laws, as appearing in the 2018 Official Edition is hereby
2 amended by inserting after section 62 the following section:-

3 Section 63. The Division shall cover the cost of habilitative and rehabilitative medically
4 necessary treatments for individuals aged 21 and older who are receiving coverage under this
5 chapter and who have been diagnosed with any of the following disorders as defined in the most
6 recent version of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM):
7 developmental disability, an intellectual disability, or autism spectrum disorder. The diagnoses
8 must be made by a licensed physician or a licensed psychologist who determines the care to be
9 medically necessary. Treatments shall include, but shall not be limited to, applied behavior

10 analysis provided or supervised by a licensed behavior analyst that is necessary to develop,
11 maintain or restore, to the maximum extent practicable, the functioning of an individual. In
12 addition, the Division shall cover the cost of both dedicated and non-dedicated augmentative and
13 alternative communication devices, including, but not limited to, medically necessary tablets.