

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 172**

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Sean Garballey and Ryan M. Hamilton***

*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 to enhance hospital care for those with autism and intellectual and developmental disabilities.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Sean Garballey</i>	<i>23rd Middlesex</i>	<i>1/17/2023</i>
<i>Ryan M. Hamilton</i>	<i>15th Essex</i>	<i>1/19/2023</i>
<i>Josh S. Cutler</i>	<i>6th Plymouth</i>	<i>1/26/2023</i>
<i>Jessica Ann Giannino</i>	<i>16th Suffolk</i>	<i>1/27/2023</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/2/2023</i>
<i>Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr.</i>	<i>12th Hampden</i>	<i>2/2/2023</i>
<i>Michael D. Brady</i>	<i>Second Plymouth and Norfolk</i>	<i>2/2/2023</i>
<i>Jack Patrick Lewis</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/6/2023</i>
<i>Tram T. Nguyen</i>	<i>18th Essex</i>	<i>2/7/2023</i>
<i>Steven S. Howitt</i>	<i>4th Bristol</i>	<i>2/7/2023</i>
<i>Patrick M. O'Connor</i>	<i>First Plymouth and Norfolk</i>	<i>2/8/2023</i>
<i>Paul McMurtry</i>	<i>11th Norfolk</i>	<i>2/8/2023</i>
<i>Tricia Farley-Bouvier</i>	<i>2nd Berkshire</i>	<i>2/8/2023</i>
<i>Carmine Lawrence Gentile</i>	<i>13th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/10/2023</i>
<i>William C. Galvin</i>	<i>6th Norfolk</i>	<i>2/10/2023</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	<i>2/13/2023</i>
<i>Denise C. Garlick</i>	<i>13th Norfolk</i>	<i>2/15/2023</i>

<i>James Arciero</i>	<i>2nd Middlesex</i>	<i>2/15/2023</i>
<i>Margaret R. Scarsdale</i>	<i>1st Middlesex</i>	<i>2/17/2023</i>
<i>Carol A. Doherty</i>	<i>3rd Bristol</i>	<i>2/21/2023</i>
<i>Bruce E. Tarr</i>	<i>First Essex and Middlesex</i>	<i>2/21/2023</i>
<i>Natalie M. Higgins</i>	<i>4th Worcester</i>	<i>2/22/2023</i>
<i>Bradley H. Jones, Jr.</i>	<i>20th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/23/2023</i>
<i>Russell E. Holmes</i>	<i>6th Suffolk</i>	<i>3/10/2023</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 172**

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By Representatives Garballey of Arlington and Hamilton of Methuen, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 172) of Sean Garballey, Ryan M. Hamilton and others relative to enhancing hospital care for those with autism and intellectual and developmental disabilities. Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 219 OF 2021-2022.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

—————  
**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court  
(2023-2024)**  
—————

An Act to enhance hospital care for those with autism and intellectual and developmental disabilities.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1           Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, within one year of the date of  
2 enactment, the executive office of health and human services shall create and maintain an  
3 integrated state plan to develop training and education as well as standards of care by appropriate  
4 healthcare providers related to the diagnosis, treatment, and care of patients with intellectual and  
5 developmental disabilities, including autism spectrum disorders and those with intersecting  
6 marginalized identities. The plan should include implementation steps and recommendations  
7 from the advisory committee on intellectual and developmental disabilities that includes, but is  
8 not limited to: (1) continuing education requirements for applicable healthcare providers related  
9 to diagnosis, treatment, and care of patients with intellectual and developmental disabilities,

10 including autism spectrum disorders and those with intersecting marginalized identities; (2)  
11 implementation of a strategy for the adoption of standards for improving assessment and  
12 diagnosis of intellectual and developmental disabilities, including autism spectrum disorders and  
13 those with intersecting marginalized identities, for patients during routine outpatient primary care  
14 examinations; and (3) coordination with applicable state licensure boards, as recommended by  
15 the advisory committee on intellectual and developmental disabilities, the adoption of  
16 appropriate continuing education requirements related to intellectual and developmental  
17 disabilities, including autism spectrum disorders and those with intersecting marginalized  
18 identities, as part of licensure renewals.

19         Within six months of the date of enactment, there is hereby established an advisory  
20 committee on intellectual and developmental disabilities, including autism spectrum disorders  
21 and those with intersecting marginalized identities. Said advisory committee shall be comprised  
22 of the following experts: (i) a designee of the secretary of health and human services; (ii) a  
23 designee of the commissioner of public health; (iii) two health care providers with expertise in  
24 the diagnosis, treatment, and care of patients with intellectual and developmental disabilities,  
25 including autism spectrum disorders and those with intersecting marginalized identities; (iv) two  
26 patient advocates or family members of those with intellectual and developmental disabilities,  
27 including autism spectrum disorders and those with intersecting marginalized identities; and (iv)  
28 five statewide trade organizations that include the Arc of Massachusetts, the Massachusetts  
29 Health and Hospital Association, the Massachusetts Medical Society, and Massachusetts  
30 Psychiatric Society, and the Massachusetts Psychological Association. The advisory council  
31 shall develop recommendations for statewide standards for healthcare professionals regarding  
32 diagnosis, treatment, and care for patients with intellectual and developmental disabilities,

33 including but not limited to, autism spectrum disorders and those with intersecting marginalized  
34 identities. Said standards shall include recommendations for training of healthcare providers,  
35 including but not limited to, physicians, psychologists, psychiatrists, physician assistants,  
36 registered nurses, and advanced practice registered nurses.