

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 310**

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

*Jennifer E. Benson*

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 provide equal access to the Bureau of Special Education Appeals.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Jennifer E. Benson</i>	<i>37th Middlesex</i>
<i>James J. Dwyer</i>	<i>30th Middlesex</i>
<i>Tricia Farley-Bouvier</i>	<i>3rd Berkshire</i>
<i>Carolyn C. Dykema</i>	<i>8th Middlesex</i>
<i>Kimberly N. Ferguson</i>	<i>1st Worcester</i>
<i>Michael O. Moore</i>	<i>Second Worcester</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>
<i>Sean Garballey</i>	<i>23rd Middlesex</i>
<i>Marjorie C. Decker</i>	<i>25th Middlesex</i>
<i>Ruth B. Balsler</i>	<i>12th Middlesex</i>
<i>Barbara L'Italien</i>	<i>Second Essex and Middlesex</i>
<i>Tom Sannicandro</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>
<i>Frank I. Smizik</i>	<i>15th Norfolk</i>

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By Ms. Benson of Lunenburg, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 310) of Jennifer E. Benson and others relative to dispute resolution processes within the Bureau of Special Education Appeals. Education.

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court  
(2015-2016)**  
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An Act to provide equal access to the Bureau of Special Education Appeals.

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

1 Section 2A of chapter 71B of the general laws is hereby amended by adding the  
2 following subsection at the end of the section 2A:

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4 (f) The director, under the direction and supervision of the chief administrative  
5 magistrate, shall hire an attorney to serve as pro se facilitator who shall provide unrepresented  
6 parents with oral and written information, but not legal advice or representation, so that they may  
7 access the bureau’s dispute resolution processes.