

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 93**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Danielle W. Gregoire*

*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 regarding the use of aversive therapy.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Danielle W. Gregoire</i>	<i>4th Middlesex</i>
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>
<i>Jonathan Hecht</i>	<i>29th Middlesex</i>
<i>Michelle M. DuBois</i>	<i>10th Plymouth</i>
<i>Louis L. Kafka</i>	<i>8th Norfolk</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 93**

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By Miss Gregoire of Marlborough, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 93) of Danielle W. Gregoire and others for legislation to prohibit the use of procedures which cause physical pain or deny a reasonable humane existence to persons with disabilities. Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 89 OF 2015-2016.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court  
(2017-2018)**  
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An Act regarding the use of aversive therapy.

*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 1. Section 16 of Chapter 6A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2010  
2 official edition, is hereby amended by inserting the following text:-

3           No program, agency, or facility funded, operated, licensed, or approved by any agency or  
4 subdivision of the Commonwealth shall administer or cause to be administered to any person  
5 with a physical, intellectual, or developmental disability any procedure which causes obvious  
6 signs of physical pain, including, but not limited to, hitting, pinching, and electric shock for the  
7 purposes of changing the behavior of the person.

8           No such program may employ any form of physical contact or punishment that is  
9 otherwise prohibited by law, or would be prohibited if used on a non-disabled person.

10           No such program may employ any procedure which denies a person with a physical,  
11 intellectual, or developmental disability reasonable sleep, food, shelter, bedding, bathroom  
12 facilities, and any other aspect expected of a humane existence in the Commonwealth.