

SENATE No. 2348

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Joanne M. Comerford

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 facilitating better interactions between police officers and persons with autism spectrum disorder.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Joanne M. Comerford</i>	<i>Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester</i>	
<i>Michael D. Brady</i>	<i>Second Plymouth and Norfolk</i>	<i>2/10/2025</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	<i>2/11/2025</i>
<i>James K. Hawkins</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>	<i>2/12/2025</i>
<i>Sally P. Kerans</i>	<i>13th Essex</i>	<i>2/13/2025</i>
<i>Sal N. DiDomenico</i>	<i>Middlesex and Suffolk</i>	<i>2/20/2025</i>
<i>John C. Velis</i>	<i>Hampden and Hampshire</i>	<i>2/20/2025</i>
<i>Michael O. Moore</i>	<i>Second Worcester</i>	<i>2/20/2025</i>
<i>John F. Keenan</i>	<i>Norfolk and Plymouth</i>	<i>2/20/2025</i>
<i>Patrick M. O'Connor</i>	<i>First Plymouth and Norfolk</i>	<i>2/21/2025</i>
<i>Marcus S. Vaughn</i>	<i>9th Norfolk</i>	<i>2/26/2025</i>
<i>Manny Cruz</i>	<i>7th Essex</i>	<i>2/28/2025</i>

SENATE No. 2348

By Ms. Comerford, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2348) of Joanne M. Comerford, Michael D. Brady, James B. Eldridge, James K. Hawkins and other members of the General Court for legislation to use blue envelopes to facilitate better interactions between police officers and persons with autism spectrum disorder. Transportation.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 2542 OF 2023-2024.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court
(2025-2026)

An Act facilitating better interactions between police officers and persons with autism spectrum disorder.

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. Chapter 6C of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after
2 section 56 the following section:-

3 Section 56A. (a) As used in this section, the following words shall, unless the context
4 clearly requires otherwise, have the following meanings:

5 “Blue envelopes”, blue-colored envelopes designed either by the department of state
6 police or the registry of motor vehicles, in consultation with the department of state police, the
7 Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association Incorporated and either Advocates for Autism of

8 Massachusetts or any other organization that advocates for persons with autism spectrum
9 disorder, that

10 (i) provide written information and guidance on the outside of the envelope regarding
11 ways to enhance effective communication between a police officer and a person with autism
12 spectrum disorder;

13 (ii) include instructions for ease of access to the envelope, including, but not limited to,
14 attaching the envelope to the sun visor on the driver's side of the vehicle; and

15 (iii) can hold a person's motor vehicle operator's license, registration and insurance
16 identification card.

17 (b) The registrar of motor vehicles shall make available, upon request, said blue
18 envelopes to a person with autism spectrum disorder or the person's parent or guardian.

19 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect as of July 1, 2026.