

SENATE No. 53

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Eric P. Lesser

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 relative to familial dysautonomia.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Eric P. Lesser</i>	<i>First Hampden and Hampshire</i>	
<i>Brian M. Ashe</i>	<i>2nd Hampden</i>	<i>1/31/2017</i>

SENATE No. 53

By Mr. Lesser, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 53) of Eric P. Lesser and Brian M. Ashe for legislation relative to familial dysautonomia. Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
(2017-2018)**

An Act relative to familial dysautonomia.

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. Notwithstanding chapter 19B or 123B of the General Laws, or any other
2 general or special law to the contrary, persons diagnosed with familial dysautonomia shall be
3 eligible for the same services and supports from the department of developmental services as
4 persons with intellectual disabilities, as defined in section 1 of said chapter 123B and applicable
5 rules and regulations of the department. For the purpose of providing services and supports
6 pursuant to this act, a diagnosis with familial dysautonomia shall be conclusive evidence that the
7 person so diagnosed qualifies as a person with an intellectual disability, as defined in said section
8 1 of said chapter 123B and applicable rules and regulations.

9 SECTION 2. The department of developmental services, in coordination with physicians
10 at the Baystate Medical Center in Springfield and, to the extent practicable, the Laboratory for
11 Familial Dysautonomia Research at Fordham University, Bronx, NY, shall promulgate rules and
12 regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of this act. The commissioner of developmental

13 services shall submit any proposed regulations to the joint committee on children, families and
14 persons with disabilities and the house and senate committees on ways and means for review and
15 comment at least 21 days before their adoption by the department.