

SENATE No. 55

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Patricia D. Jehlen

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 passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act eliminating archaic language pertaining to individuals with disabilities in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Patricia D. Jehlen

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Second Middlesex

SENATE No. 55

By Ms. Jehlen, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 55) of Patricia D. Jehlen for legislation to eliminate archaic language pertaining to individuals with disabilities. Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE
□ SENATE
□ , NO. 46 OF 2011-2012.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen

An Act eliminating archaic language pertaining to individuals with disabilities in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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 32 of chapter 22C of the General Laws, as so appearing in the
2 Official Edition of 2010, is hereby amended in the second paragraph on line 12 by deleting the
3 word “handicap” and inserting in place thereof the following:- disability, age,

4 SECTION 2. Section 1 of chapter 31 of the General Laws, as so appearing in the Official
5 Edition of 2010, is hereby amended by inserting after the last sentence of the definition for
6 “Handicap”, the following:- “Handicap” shall have the same meaning as the term "disability".

7 SECTION 3. Clause (e) of subsection 1 of Section 1 of chapter 31A of the General
8 Laws, as so appearing in the Official Edition of 2010, is hereby amended by deleting on line 22
9 the word “handicap” and inserting in place thereof the following:-disability

10 SECTION 4. Subsection 2 of section 2 of chapter 31A of the General Laws, as appearing
11 in the Official Edition of 2010, is hereby amended by inserting after the definition for
12 “Department” the following:- "Disability", a physical or mental impairment that substantially

13 limits one or more major life activities without regard to the ameliorative effects of mitigating
14 measures which do not include ordinary eyeglasses or contact lenses.

15 And, by inserting in section 2 of chapter 31A after the definition for “Local merit appeals
16 board” the following:-

17 Major life activities” shall include, but are not limited to, caring for oneself, performing
18 manual tasks, seeing, hearing, eating, sleeping, walking, standing, lifting, bending, speaking,
19 breathing, learning, reading, concentrating, thinking, communicating, and working. This term
20 also includes the meaning of “major bodily functions,” which include, but are not limited to,
21 functions of the immune system, normal cell growth, digestive, bowel, bladder, neurological,
22 brain, respiratory, circulatory, endocrine, and reproductive functions.

23 SECTION 5. Section 23 of chapter 32 of the General Laws as so appearing in the Official
24 Edition of 2010, is hereby amended in clause (5)(b) by deleting the words physical handicap” and
25 inserting the following:- disability

26 SECTION 6. Section 4 of chapter 92B of the General Laws, as so appearing in the
27 Official Edition of 2010, is hereby amended in line of 26 by deleting the words “physical
28 handicap”, and inserting in their place the following:- disability

29 SECTION 7. The title of section 103 of chapter 93 as so appearing in the Official Edition
30 of 2010, is hereby amended by deleting the word “handicap” and inserting in its place the
31 following:- disability

32 And, in subsection A of section 103 of chapter 93, by deleting in the first sentence the
33 word “handicap” and inserting in place thereof the following:- disability

34 And, in line 1 of subsection A of section 103 of chapter 93, by inserting after the
35 “reasonable” the following:- or without reasonable accommodation,

36 SECTION 8. Section 24E of chapter 111, of the General Laws, as so appearing in the
37 Official Edition of 2010, is hereby amended in the second paragraph on line 8 by deleting the
38 word “handicap” and inserting in place thereof the following:- disability

39 SECTION 9. Subsection(a) of section 5 of chapter 161A of the General Laws, as so
40 appearing in the Official Edition of 2010, is hereby amended on line 11 by deleting the word
41 “handicap” and inserting on place thereof the following:- disability

42 And, by deleting in section 25 of chapter 161A on line 21 the words “handicapping
43 condition” and inserting in place thereof the following:- disability

44 SECTION 10. Section 5B of chapter 260 of the General Laws, as so appearing in the
45 Official Edition of 2010, is hereby amended on line 4 by deleting the word “handicap” and insert
46 in place thereof the following:- disability