

HOUSE No. 155

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Barbara A. L'Italien

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 establishing an autism commission.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Barbara A. L'Italien	18th Essex
Frank I. Smizik	15th Norfolk
Stephen L. DiNatale	3rd Worcester
Robert L. Rice, Jr.	2nd Worcester
Brian A. Joyce	Norfolk, Bristol and Plymouth
Tom Sannicandro	7th Middlesex
Matthew C. Patrick	3rd Barnstable
Katherine Clark	32nd Middlesex
William N. Brownsberger	24th Middlesex
Scott P. Brown	Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex
Todd M. Smola	1st Hampden
Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr.	12th Hampden
Christine E. Canavan	10th Plymouth
David B. Sullivan	6th Bristol
John D. Keenan	7th Essex
Carlo P. Basile	1st Suffolk
Stephen R. Canessa	12th Bristol
Cheryl A. Coakley-Rivera	10th Hampden
Bruce E. Tarr	First Essex and Middlesex

David M. Torrisi	14th Essex
Thomas M. Stanley	9th Middlesex
Anne M. Gobi	5th Worcester
Robert S. Hargraves	1st Middlesex
Brian P. Wallace	4th Suffolk
John V. Fernandes	10th Worcester
Allen J. McCarthy	7th Plymouth
David P. Linsky	5th Middlesex
Colleen M. Garry	36th Middlesex
James R. Miceli	19th Middlesex
Mary E. Grant	6th Essex
Kate Hogan	3rd Middlesex
Denise Provost	27th Middlesex
Michael F. Rush	10th Suffolk
Richard J. Ross	9th Norfolk
Sarah K. Peake	4th Barnstable
Steven J. D'Amico	4th Bristol
Kevin G. Honan	17th Suffolk
Paul J. Donato	35th Middlesex

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN AUTISM COMMISSION.

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. There shall be a special commission to investigate and study services and supports for
2 individuals with autistic spectrum disorders, which shall include, but not be limited to, Asperger's
3 syndrome, high functioning autism, and pervasive development disorder not otherwise specified and who
4 do not therefore have a condition that meets the definition of mental retardation as defined in 1992 by the
5 American association of mental retardation. The commission shall consist of: a member of the house of
6 representatives, appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives and a member of the senate
7 appointed by the president of the senate, a member of the house of representatives appointed by the
8 minority leader of the house of representatives and a member of the senate appointed by the minority
9 leader of the senate, a representative of the governor; the secretary of the executive office of health and
10 human services or the secretary's designee; the commissioner of the department of mental retardation, or
11 the commissioner's designee; the commissioner of the department of mental health, or the commissioner's
12 designee; the commissioner of the department of education, or the commissioner's designee; 8 of whom
13 shall be named by the Statewide Autism group; 2 of whom shall be named by the Asperger's Association
14 of New England; and 2 of whom shall be named by the Autism Society of America, Massachusetts
15 Chapter.