

HOUSE No. 180

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:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Danielle W. Gregoire</i>	<i>4th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/17/2023</i>
<i>Mindy Domb</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>	<i>1/31/2023</i>
<i>Michael O. Moore</i>	<i>Second Worcester</i>	<i>2/9/2023</i>
<i>Michelle M. DuBois</i>	<i>10th Plymouth</i>	<i>2/9/2023</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	<i>2/15/2023</i>
<i>William C. Galvin</i>	<i>6th Norfolk</i>	<i>2/15/2023</i>

HOUSE No. 180

By Representative Gregoire of Marlborough, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 180) 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.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 225 OF 2021-2022.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court
(2023-2024)**
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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.