

HOUSE No. 184

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Christine P. Barber

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 ensuring equal access to medical treatments essential for people with a developmental disability, intellectual disability, or autism.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Christine P. Barber</i>	<i>34th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/9/2021</i>
<i>John F. Keenan</i>	<i>Norfolk and Plymouth</i>	<i>2/24/2021</i>
<i>Lindsay N. Sabadosa</i>	<i>1st Hampshire</i>	<i>2/24/2021</i>
<i>Michael S. Day</i>	<i>31st Middlesex</i>	<i>2/25/2021</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Gerard J. Cassidy</i>	<i>9th Plymouth</i>	<i>3/22/2021</i>
<i>James M. Murphy</i>	<i>4th Norfolk</i>	<i>3/25/2021</i>
<i>Vanna Howard</i>	<i>17th Middlesex</i>	<i>4/1/2021</i>
<i>Michelle L. Ciccolo</i>	<i>15th Middlesex</i>	<i>4/1/2021</i>
<i>Walter F. Timilty</i>	<i>Norfolk, Bristol and Plymouth</i>	<i>4/1/2021</i>
<i>Mary S. Keefe</i>	<i>15th Worcester</i>	<i>4/2/2021</i>
<i>Brian M. Ashe</i>	<i>2nd Hampden</i>	<i>4/8/2021</i>

HOUSE No. 184

By Ms. Barber of Somerville, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 184) of Christine P. Barber and others relative to ensuring equal access to medical treatments essential for people with a developmental disability, intellectual disability, or autism. Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court
(2021-2022)**

An Act ensuring equal access to medical treatments essential for people with a developmental disability, intellectual disability, or autism.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Chapter 118E of General Laws, as appearing in the 2018 Official Edition is hereby
2 amended by inserting after section 62 the following section:-

3 Section 63. The Division shall cover the cost of habilitative and rehabilitative medically
4 necessary treatments for individuals aged 21 and older who are receiving coverage under this
5 chapter and who have been diagnosed with any of the following disorders as defined in the most
6 recent version of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM):

7 developmental disability, an intellectual disability, or autism spectrum disorder. The diagnoses
8 must be made by a licensed physician or a licensed psychologist who determines the care to be
9 medically necessary. Treatments shall include, but shall not be limited to, applied behavior
10 analysis provided or supervised by a licensed behavior analyst that is necessary to develop,
11 maintain or restore, to the maximum extent practicable, the functioning of an individual. In

- 12 addition, the Division shall cover the cost of both dedicated and non-dedicated augmentative and
- 13 alternative communication devices, including, but not limited to, medically necessary tablets.