

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 2209**

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**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 autism.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Christine P. Barber</i>	<i>34th Middlesex</i>
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>
<i>Marjorie C. Decker</i>	<i>25th Middlesex</i>
<i>Jonathan Hecht</i>	<i>29th Middlesex</i>
<i>Joseph W. McGonagle, Jr.</i>	<i>28th Middlesex</i>
<i>Chris Walsh</i>	<i>6th Middlesex</i>

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By Ms. Barber of Somerville, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2209) of Christine P. Barber and others for legislation to provide equal access to medical treatments essential for persons with autism. Health Care Financing.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE SENATE, NO. 611 OF 2015-2016.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court  
(2017-2018)**  
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An Act ensuring equal access to medical treatments essential for people with 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 2012 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 or rehabilitative medically  
4 necessary treatments for individuals aged 22 and older who have been diagnosed with one of the  
5 Autism Spectrum Disorders by a licensed physician or a licensed psychologist who determines  
6 the care to be medically necessary. Treatments include, but are not limited to, Applied Behavior  
7 Analysis supervised by a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) that is necessary to develop,  
8 maintain or restore, to the maximum extent practicable, the functioning of an individual. In  
9 addition, the Division shall cover the cost of both dedicated and non-dedicated augmentative and  
10 alternative communication devices, including, but not limited to, medically necessary tablets.