

HOUSE No. 221

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Sean Garballey

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 to support families.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Sean Garballey</i>	<i>23rd Middlesex</i>	<i>2/18/2021</i>

HOUSE No. 221

By Mr. Garballey of Arlington, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 221) of Sean Garballey relative to infants with physical dependence upon an addictive drug at birth. Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act to support families.

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 51A of chapter 119 of the general laws is hereby amended in
2 subsection (a) in the first paragraph by striking out the words:-

3 (iii) physical dependence upon an addictive drug at birth,

4 SECTION 2. Said section 51A is hereby further amended by inserting in subsection (a)
5 after the second paragraph a new subsection:

6 (a ½) Separate from the reporting requirements under subsection (a), health care
7 providers involved in the delivery or care of infants affected by in-utero substance exposure or a
8 Fetal Alcohol Spectrum disorder, shall notify the Department of such condition in such infants as
9 required under 42 U.S.C. § 1506a(b)(2)(B)(ii). Such notification shall not include the names or
10 identifying information of the parents or the infant, shall not constitute a report that any parent
11 has abused or neglected a child, and shall not trigger or require prosecution for any illegal action.