

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 2666**

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Brian M. Ashe***

*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 designating the last day of February as rare disease day in the Commonwealth.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Brian M. Ashe</i>	<i>2nd Hampden</i>
<i>Josh S. Cutler</i>	<i>6th Plymouth</i>
<i>Colleen M. Garry</i>	<i>36th Middlesex</i>
<i>Anne M. Gobi</i>	<i>Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire and Middlesex</i>
<i>Kate Hogan</i>	<i>3rd Middlesex</i>
<i>Steven S. Howitt</i>	<i>4th Bristol</i>
<i>Louis L. Kafka</i>	<i>8th Norfolk</i>
<i>Hannah Kane</i>	<i>11th Worcester</i>
<i>Patrick Joseph Kearney</i>	<i>4th Plymouth</i>
<i>Eric P. Lesser</i>	<i>First Hampden and Hampshire</i>
<i>David Paul Linsky</i>	<i>5th Middlesex</i>
<i>Joseph D. McKenna</i>	<i>18th Worcester</i>
<i>Paul McMurtry</i>	<i>11th Norfolk</i>
<i>Michael O. Moore</i>	<i>Second Worcester</i>
<i>Mathew J. Muratore</i>	<i>1st Plymouth</i>
<i>Patrick M. O'Connor</i>	<i>Plymouth and Norfolk</i>
<i>Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr.</i>	<i>12th Hampden</i>

*John H. Rogers*

*12th Norfolk*

*Michael J. Soter*

*8th Worcester*

*Bud L. Williams*

*11th Hampden*

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By Mr. Ashe of Longmeadow, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2666) of Brian M. Ashe and others for the annual issuance of a proclamation by the Governor designating the last day of February as rare disease day. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 1650 OF 2017-2018.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court  
(2019-2020)**  
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An Act designating the last day of February as rare disease day in the Commonwealth.

*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 6 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 1500000,  
2 inserted by chapter 238 of the acts of 2012, the following section:—

3 15PPPPP. The governor shall annually issue a proclamation setting aside the last day of  
4 February as Rare Disease Day recommending its observance by the public to increase public  
5 awareness of rare diseases which affect millions of Americans resulting in special challenges  
6 encountered by patients and their families as well as the impact upon medical professionals,  
7 researchers, educators and others who serve the rare disease community and recommending that  
8 said day be observed in an appropriate manner by the people.