

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 2774**

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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 passage 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>Robert M. Koczera</i>	<i>11th Bristol</i>
<i>Paul McMurtry</i>	<i>11th Norfolk</i>
<i>Christine E. Canavan</i>	<i>10th Plymouth</i>
<i>Sean Garballey</i>	<i>23rd Middlesex</i>

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By Mr. Ashe of Longmeadow, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2774) 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. 3378 OF 2011-2012.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen**  
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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.