

HOUSE No. 4147

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Sheila C. Harrington

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 providing technical education and economic opportunity for citizens with autism.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Sheila C. Harrington</i>	<i>1st Middlesex</i>	<i>2/11/2021</i>
<i>Lindsay N. Sabadosa</i>	<i>1st Hampshire</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Mathew J. Muratore</i>	<i>1st Plymouth</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Michael J. Soter</i>	<i>8th Worcester</i>	<i>3/8/2021</i>

HOUSE No. 4147

By Mrs. Harrington of Groton, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4147) of Sheila C. Harrington and others relative to the Massachusetts Development Finance Agency and Mount Wachusett Community College providing technical education and economic opportunity for citizens with autism. Higher Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act providing technical education and economic opportunity for citizens 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 (a) For purposes of this act, “autism spectrum disorder” shall have the same meaning as
2 defined by the most recent edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders.

3 (b) The Massachusetts Development Finance Agency and Mount Wachusett Community
4 College shall develop a 3-year pilot program within 90 days of the effective date of this act to
5 prepare individuals on the autism spectrum for careers in advanced technology machinery
6 manufacturing. The pilot program shall be implemented by Mount Wachusett Community
7 College, in collaboration with the Massachusetts Development Finance Agency, and shall
8 include education and skills training for individuals with autism spectrum disorder relevant to
9 advanced technology machinery manufacturing.

10 (c) The Massachusetts Development Finance Agency and Mount Wachusett Community
11 College shall annually, not later than July 1, file a report with the clerks of the house of

12 representatives and the senate regarding outcomes for the pilot program, including, but not
13 limited to: (i) total enrollment in the pilot program; (ii) graduation rates for individuals enrolled
14 in the program; (iii) post-graduation employment statistics; (iv) the cost of running the pilot
15 program on annual basis; and (v) the types of education and skills training provided by the pilot
16 program.