

SENATE No. 2496

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Patrick M. O'Connor

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 improving pediatric cancer research.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Patrick M. O'Connor</i>	<i>First Plymouth and Norfolk</i>	
<i>Hannah Kane</i>	<i>11th Worcester</i>	<i>9/29/2023</i>
<i>Marc R. Pacheco</i>	<i>Third Bristol and Plymouth</i>	<i>9/29/2023</i>
<i>Ryan C. Fattman</i>	<i>Worcester and Hampden</i>	<i>10/2/2023</i>
<i>Jacob R. Oliveira</i>	<i>Hampden, Hampshire and Worcester</i>	<i>10/2/2023</i>
<i>Susan Williams Gifford</i>	<i>2nd Plymouth</i>	<i>10/3/2023</i>
<i>Nick Collins</i>	<i>First Suffolk</i>	<i>10/3/2023</i>
<i>Lydia Edwards</i>	<i>Third Suffolk</i>	<i>10/4/2023</i>
<i>Francisco E. Paulino</i>	<i>16th Essex</i>	<i>10/4/2023</i>
<i>Walter F. Timilty</i>	<i>Norfolk, Plymouth and Bristol</i>	<i>10/5/2023</i>
<i>Paul J. Donato</i>	<i>35th Middlesex</i>	<i>10/17/2023</i>

SENATE No. 2496

By Mr. O'Connor, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2496) (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Patrick M. O'Connor, Hannah Kane, Marc R. Pacheco, Ryan C. Fattman and other members of the General Court for legislation to improve pediatric cancer research. Public Health.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court
(2023-2024)**

An Act improving pediatric cancer research.

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. Chapter 29 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after
2 section 2AAAAAA the following section:-

3 Section 2BBBBBB. (a) There is hereby established and set up on the books of the
4 commonwealth a Pediatric Cancer Research and Resource Project Trust Fund for the purpose of
5 providing grants for pediatric cancer research projects and pediatric cancer resource projects in
6 the commonwealth.

7 (b) The fund shall be credited with: (i) appropriations or other money authorized or
8 transferred by the general court and specifically designated to be credited to the fund; (ii) funds
9 from public and private sources, including, but not limited to gifts, grants and donations; and (iii)
10 any interest earned on such money.

11 (c) Subject to appropriation, amounts credited to the fund shall be used for grants for
12 pediatric cancer research and pediatric cancer resource projects in the commonwealth. Money
13 remaining in the fund at the end of a fiscal year shall not revert to the General Fund.

14 (d) As uses in this section, the following words shall have the following meanings unless
15 the context clearly requires otherwise:

16 “Pediatric cancer research project”, a scientific research project focusing on the causes,
17 prevention, education, screening, treatment or cure of pediatric cancer, or the symptoms or
18 effects experienced by patients following completion of a course of treatment for pediatric
19 cancer, and may include basic, clinical and epidemiologic research.

20 “Pediatric cancer resource project”, a community-based educational, informational,
21 awareness and financial resource project that improves the lives of individuals afflicted by
22 pediatric cancer through an enhanced understanding of the diagnosis, treatment and long-term
23 impacts of childhood cancer and provides support to reduce its emotional, educational and
24 financial burden.

25 SECTION 2. The executive office of health and human services shall establish a
26 permanent advisory committee to award and allocate grants for pediatric cancer research and
27 pediatric cancer resource projects in the commonwealth. The advisory committee’s membership
28 shall consist of 7 members appointed by the secretary of health and human services 2 of whom
29 shall be survivors of pediatric cancer or caregivers to individuals with pediatric cancer, 1 of
30 whom shall be a representative of a nationwide childhood cancer advocacy non-profit and 4 of
31 whom shall be professionals from the childhood cancer field.

32 Not later than August 1, the executive office of health and human services shall submit an
33 annual report to the House and Senate Committees on Ways and Means, Joint Committee on
34 Public Health, And Joint Committee on Healthcare Finance detailing the number, amounts and
35 recipients of the grants awarded pursuant to section 2BBBBBB of chapter 29 of the General
36 Laws, the resulting research and other relevant information as requested by the special
37 committee.