

SENATE No. 646

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Barbara A. L'Italien

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 ensuring equal access to medical treatments essential for people with autism.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Barbara A. L'Italien</i>	<i>Second Essex and Middlesex</i>	
<i>Marjorie C. Decker</i>	<i>25th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/30/2017</i>
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>	<i>2/1/2017</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	<i>2/1/2017</i>
<i>James M. Murphy</i>	<i>4th Norfolk</i>	<i>2/2/2017</i>

SENATE No. 646

By Ms. L'Italien, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 646) of Barbara A. L'Italien, Marjorie C. Decker, Jason M. Lewis, James B. Eldridge and others for legislation to provide equal access to medical treatments essential for people with autism. Health Care Financing.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 611 OF 2015-2016.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
(2017-2018)**

An Act ensuring equal access to medical treatments essential for people 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 Chapter 118E of General Laws, as appearing in the 2014 Official Edition, is hereby
2 amended by inserting after section 62 the following section:-

3 Section 63- The Division shall cover the cost of habilitative or rehabilitative medically
4 necessary treatments for individuals aged 22 and older who have been diagnosed with one of the
5 Autism Spectrum Disorders by a licensed physician or a licensed psychologist who determines
6 the care to be medically necessary. Treatments include, but are not limited to, Applied Behavior
7 Analysis supervised by a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) that is necessary to develop,
8 maintain or restore, to the maximum extent practicable, the functioning of an individual. In
9 addition, the Division shall cover the cost of both dedicated and non-dedicated augmentative and
10 alternative communication devices, including, but not limited to, medically necessary tablets.