

SENATE No. 696

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 relative to improving graduation rates at public colleges and universities.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Barbara A. L'Italien</i>	<i>Second Essex and Middlesex</i>	
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	<i>2/1/2017</i>

SENATE No. 696

By Ms. L'Italien, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 696) of Barbara A. L'Italien and James B. Eldridge for legislation relative to improving graduation rates at public colleges and universities. Higher Education.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 673 OF 2015-2016.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to improving graduation rates at public colleges and universities.

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 9 of Chapter 15A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2014 Official Edition,
2 is hereby amended by inserting, after subsection (gg), the following subsection:-

3 (hh) develop and administer a policy requiring all public institutions of higher education
4 to provide flexibility in graduation requirements for students who have one or more diagnosed
5 and documented intellectual or developmental disabilities, including autism spectrum disorders,
6 and are enrolled in credit-bearing classes with the intent of earning a degree.