

HOUSE No. 493

By Ms. L'Italien of Andover, petition of Barbara A. L'Italien and others relative to the children's autism Medicaid waiver. Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PETITION OF:

Barbara A. L'Italien	Barry R. Finegold
William N. Brownsberger	Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr.
Louis L. Kafka	David Paul Linsky
Richard J. Ross	John P. Fresolo
Tom Sannicandro	David M. Torrasi
John W. Scibak	James R. Miceli
Susan C. Fargo	Edward M. Augustus, Jr.
Jennifer M. Callahan	Robert K. Coughlin
Steven A. Tolman	Karyn E. Polito
Garrett J. Bradley	Alice Hanlon Peisch
William Lantigua	Christopher N. Speranzo
Kathi-Anne Reinstein	Kay Khan
Matthew C. Patrick	Joseph R. Driscoll
Scott P. Brown	Robert L. Rice, Jr.

In the Year Two Thousand and Seven.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE CHILDREN'S AUTISM MEDICAID WAIVER.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 The secretary of health and human services and the commissioner
2 of education shall collaborate with parents, providers and others
3 with expertise in meeting the needs of children with autism spectrum
4 disorder to study and develop recommendations for maintaining and
5 increasing the number of qualified providers of intensive in-home
6 intervention services for children with autism spectrum disorder. The
7 secretary and the commissioner shall submit a joint report to the
8 joint committees on education and health care describing said rec-
9 ommendations no later than January 1, 2006. The report shall con-
10 sider a full range of options for maintaining and increasing the
11 number of qualified providers available to provide services under the
12 waiver described in this act, including but not limited to:—

13 collaboration with Massachusetts' universities, colleges and commu-
14 nity colleges; loan forgiveness programs; scholarships to post-sec-
15 ondary students who work as providers and pursue a related field of
16 study; outreach efforts to parents of children with autism spectrum
17 disorder to recruit parents interested in working as providers of
18 services.