

HOUSE No. 1899

By Mr. Sannicandro of Ashland, petition of Tom Sannicandro and others to eliminate the use of the word “retardation” from the General Laws. Mental Health and Substance Abuse.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PETITION OF:

Tom Sannicandro	David Paul Linsky
John W. Scibak	Matthew C. Patrick
Richard J. Ross	Douglas W. Petersen
Robert L. Rice, Jr.	Edward M. Augustus, Jr.
Benjamin Swan	Stephen M. Brewer
Gloria L. Fox	Thomas P. Kennedy
Louis L. Kafka	

In the Year Two Thousand and Seven.

AN ACT TO ELIMINATE THE USE OF THE WORD RETARDATION FROM THE GENERAL LAWS.

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. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the
2 contrary, the Massachusetts General Laws as appearing in the 2004
3 official edition are hereby amended by striking out the words
4 “mental retardation” and replacing thereof with the words
5 “developmental disabilities.”

1 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.