

HOUSE No. 177

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Tom Sannicandro

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 passage of the accompanying bill:
An Act creating a means for tracking the unmet need of individuals with developmental disabilities in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Tom Sannicandro	7th Middlesex
Barbara A. L'Italien	18th Essex
Frank I. Smizik	15th Norfolk
Kay Khan	11th Middlesex
Matthew C. Patrick	3rd Barnstable
Steven M. Walsh	11th Essex
Mary E. Grant	6th Essex
Carl M. Sciortino, Jr.	34th Middlesex
Thomas P. Kennedy	Second Plymouth and Bristol
Stephen R. Canessa	12th Bristol
John P. Fresolo	16th Worcester
James B. Eldridge	Middlesex and Worcester
Thomas M. Stanley	9th Middlesex
Stephen M. Brewer	Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire and Franklin
Cleon H. Turner	1st Barnstable
Alice Hanlon Peisch	14th Norfolk
Michael Brady	9th Plymouth
Alice Hanlon Peisch	14th Norfolk
Stephen L. DiNatale	3rd Worcester
Joyce A. Spiliotis	12th Essex
Anne M. Gobi	5th Worcester
Paul McMurtry	11th Norfolk
Geraldine Creedon	11th Plymouth
Katherine Clark	32nd Middlesex

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 4793 OF 2007-2008.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT CREATING A MEANS FOR TRACKING THE UNMET NEED OF INDIVIDUALS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

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

SECTION 1. There is hereby established a system of tracking the unmet service needs of individuals with developmental disabilities in Massachusetts. The system will consist of a central electronic database, using open-source software, operated and maintained by The Office of Disabilities and Community Services at the Executive Office of Health and Human Services. The content of the database will consist of data prepared by the following agencies, including but not limited to: the Massachusetts Department of Mental Retardation, the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission, the Massachusetts Commission for the Blind and the Massachusetts Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. Each of the agencies required to submit data will do so annually by means of a standard reporting form which will include statistics regarding the number of individuals with developmental disabilities who apply for services with said agencies, the number of individuals with developmental disabilities receiving services, and the number of individuals with developmental disabilities who apply for services with said agencies and are unsuccessful in receiving services. The Office of Disabilities and Community Services will enter the standard report form content into the electronic database and generate annual reports to be made available on-line to the public.