

SENATE NO. 281

AN ACT RELATIVE TO INTENSIVE IN-HOME SERVICES FOR CHILDREN WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER

*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. The secretary of health and human services and the commissioner of education shall
2 collaborate with parents, providers and others with expertise in meeting the needs of children with
3 autism spectrum disorder to study and develop recommendations for maintaining and increasing the
4 number of qualified providers of intensive in-home intervention services for children with autism
5 spectrum disorder.

6 SECTION 2. The secretary and the commissioner shall submit a joint report to the joint committees
7 on education and health care describing said recommendations no later than January 1, 2008. The
8 report shall consider a full range of options for maintaining and increasing the number of qualified
9 providers available to provide services under the waiver described in this act, including but not
10 limited to: collaboration with Massachusetts' universities, colleges and community colleges; loan
11 forgiveness programs; scholarships to post-secondary students who work as providers and pursue a
12 related field of study; outreach efforts to parents of children with autism spectrum disorder to
13 recruit parents interested in working as providers of services.