

**HOUSE . . . . . No.**

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**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 passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act to support and increase the number of qualified providers of intensive intervention providers for children with autism spectrum disorders.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Barbara A. L'Italien

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

18th Essex

# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the Year Two Thousand and Nine  
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## AN ACT TO SUPPORT AND INCREASE THE NUMBER OF QUALIFIED PROVIDERS OF INTENSIVE INTERVENTION PROVIDERS FOR CHILDREN WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS.

*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 secretary of education shall  
2 collaborate with parents of children with autism, advocates, educators, service providers and  
3 others with expertise in meeting the needs of children with autism spectrum disorder to study and  
4 develop recommendations for supporting and increasing the number of qualified providers of  
5 intensive intervention services including but not limited to Applied Behavior Analysis, Floor  
6 Time and Relationship Development Intervention for children with autism spectrum disorder.  
7 The secretary of health and human services and the secretary of education shall submit a joint  
8 report to the joint committee on children, families and persons with disabilities, the joint  
9 committee of health care finance, the joint committee on higher education and the joint  
10 committee on education, describing said recommendations no later than January 1, 2010. The  
11 report shall consider a full range of options for supporting and increasing the number of qualified  
12 providers available to provide intensive intervention services for children on the autism  
13 spectrum, including but not limited to: collaboration with Massachusetts' universities, colleges  
14 and community colleges; loan forgiveness programs; scholarships to post-secondary students  
15 who work as providers and pursue a related field of study; and outreach efforts to parents of  
16 children with autism spectrum disorder to recruit parents interested in working as providers of  
17 services and strategies to increase the number of providers qualified to serve children with

18 autism spectrum disorder who are from linguistically and culturally diverse families and  
19 communities.