

SENATE No. 1287

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Jason M. Lewis

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 adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act creating Autism teams in hospitals.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>	
<i>Steven Ultrino</i>	<i>33rd Middlesex</i>	<i>1/28/2019</i>
<i>Mike Connolly</i>	<i>26th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/31/2019</i>
<i>Michael O. Moore</i>	<i>Second Worcester</i>	<i>1/31/2019</i>
<i>Patrick M. O'Connor</i>	<i>Plymouth and Norfolk</i>	<i>1/31/2019</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/4/2019</i>
<i>Jack Patrick Lewis</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/4/2019</i>
<i>Marcos A. Devers</i>	<i>16th Essex</i>	<i>2/11/2019</i>

SENATE No. 1287

By Mr. Lewis, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1287) of Jason M. Lewis, Steven Ultrino, Mike Connolly, Michael O. Moore and other members of the General Court for legislation to increase current medical providers' knowledge about autism in order to improve treatment . Public Health.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 1221 OF 2017-2018.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court
(2019-2020)**
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An Act creating Autism teams in hospitals.

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 contrary, within 1 year of
2 the date of enactment, the executive office of health and human services shall create and
3 maintain an integrated state plan to develop training and education as well as standards of care
4 by appropriate healthcare providers related to the diagnosis, treatment, and care of patients with
5 intellectual and developmental disabilities, including autism spectrum disorders. The plan
6 should include implementation steps and recommendations from the advisory committee on
7 intellectual and developmental disabilities that includes, but is not limited to: (1) continuing
8 education requirements for applicable healthcare providers related to diagnosis, treatment, and
9 care of patients with intellectual and developmental disabilities, including autism spectrum
10 disorders; (2) implementation of a strategy for the adoption of standards for improving

11 assessment and diagnosis of intellectual and developmental disabilities, including autism
12 spectrum disorders, for patients during routine outpatient primary care examinations; and (3)
13 coordination with applicable state licensure boards, as recommended by the advisory committee
14 on intellectual and developmental disabilities, the adoption of appropriate continuing education
15 requirements related to intellectual and developmental disabilities, including autism spectrum
16 disorders, as part of licensure renewals.

17 Within 6 months of the date of enactment, there is hereby established an advisory
18 committee on intellectual and developmental disabilities, including autism spectrum disorders.
19 Said advisory committee shall be comprised of the following experts: (i) a designee of the
20 secretary of health and human services; (ii) a designee of the commissioner of public health; (iii)
21 2 health care providers with expertise in the diagnosis, treatment, and care of patients with
22 intellectual and developmental disabilities, including autism spectrum disorders; (iv) 2 patient
23 advocates or family members of those with intellectual and developmental disabilities, including
24 autism spectrum disorders; and (v) 5 statewide trade organizations that include the Arc of
25 Massachusetts, the Massachusetts Health and Hospital Association, the Massachusetts Medical
26 Society, and Massachusetts Psychiatric Society, and the Massachusetts Psychological
27 Association. The advisory council shall develop recommendations for statewide standards for
28 healthcare professionals regarding diagnosis, treatment, and care for patients with intellectual
29 and developmental disabilities, including but not limited to, autism spectrum disorders. Said
30 standards shall include recommendations for training of healthcare providers, including but not
31 limited to, physicians, psychologists, psychiatrists, physician assistants, registered nurses, and
32 advanced practice registered nurses.