

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 3838

By Ms. L'Italien of Andover, petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3838) of Barbara A. L'Italien and others relative to establishing a pilot program for adults with Asperger Syndrome and other autism spectrum disorders. Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities.

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PETITION OF:

Barbara A. L'Italien	Robert L. Rice, Jr.
Susan C. Fargo	Joseph R. Driscoll
Jennifer M. Callahan	James B. Eldridge
Garrett J. Bradley	William N. Brownsberger
William Lantigua	Louis L. Kafka
Kathi-Anne Reinstein	Tom Sannicandro
Matthew C. Patrick	Rachel Kaprielian
Scott P. Brown	Steven A. Tolman
Barry R. Finegold	John J. Binienda
David Paul Linsky	Richard J. Ross
John P. Fresolo	John D. Keenan
David M. Torrasi	Kay Khan
Stephen R. Canessa	Thomas P. Conroy
Edward M. Augustus, Jr.	Thomas J. Calter
Robert K. Coughlin	Steven M. Walsh
Carl M. Sciortino, Jr.	
Alice Hanlon Peisch	
Denise Provost	

In the Year Two Thousand and Seven.

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PILOT PROGRAM FOR ADULTS WITH ASPERGER SYNDROME AND AUTISM.

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

Section1. Chapter 6 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2004 Official Edition, is hereby amended, by inserting after section 78A, the following section:-

78B. The commissioner of the Massachusetts rehabilitation commission shall establish a 2 year pilot program for 25 adults with Asperger syndrome or other autism spectrum disorders without mental retardation.

The commission will establish an advisory board of community professionals, including a consumer with Asperger's syndrome, a representative from the Asperger's association of New England, a state representative, a state senator and commission staff to advise and evaluate and provide technical assistance to the project. The advisory board shall meet quarterly.

The program shall provide services which lead to paid, customized, sustainable employment. Services will include post-employment and re-employment support as needed. The program will supplement existing commission funding for individuals with Asperger's syndrome. These supports may include but are not limited to: career assessment and counseling; job development; job placement; job coaching; employment training; on-the-job support; case management and funding to purchase adjunct supports and services.

A request for proposals for this program shall be issued within 60 days of the enactment. Within one year of the program start a preliminary outcome report with future recommendations shall be presented to the clerk of the house of representatives. A final report at the end of the 2 year pilot shall be submitted with recommendations for sustainability, replication and modifications.