

SENATE No. 2255

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court
(2015-2016)**

SENATE, Thursday, April 28, 2016

The committee on Education to whom was referred the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 281) of James B. Eldridge for legislation to provide equal access to the bureau of special education appeals,- reports the accompanying bill (Senate, No. 2255).

For the committee,
Sonia Chang-Diaz

SENATE No. 2255

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court
(2015-2016)**

An Act to provide equal access to the bureau of special education appeals.

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. Section 2A of chapter 71B of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2014
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding the following subsection at the end of the section
3 2A:-
4 (f) The director, under the direction and supervision of the chief administrative
5 magistrate, shall hire an attorney, subject to appropriation, to serve as pro se facilitator who shall
6 provide unrepresented parents with oral and written information, but not legal advice or
7 representation, so that they may access the bureau’s dispute resolution processes.