SENATE DOCKET, NO. 1719 FILED ON: 1/16/2015

SENATE . . . . . No. 281

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

James B. Eldridge

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

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
James B. Eldridge	*Middlesex and Worcester*	
Joan B. Lovely	*Second Essex*	*3/4/2015*

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SENATE . . . . . No. 281

By Mr. Eldridge, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 281) of James B. Eldridge for legislation to provide equal access to the bureau of special education appeals. Education.

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:

SECTION 1. Section 2A of chapter 71B of the general laws is hereby amended by adding the following subsection at the end of the section 2A:

(f) The director, under the direction and supervision of the chief administrative magistrate, shall hire an attorney to serve as pro se facilitator who shall provide unrepresented parents with oral and written information, but not legal advice or representation, so that they may access the bureau's dispute resolution processes.