

HOUSE No. 2710

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Cheryl A. Coakley-Rivera

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 establishing a commission to study the feasibility of a charter school for students on the autism spectrum.

PETITION OF:

| NAME: | DISTRICT/ADDRESS: | DATE ADDED: |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| <i>Cheryl A. Coakley-Rivera</i> | <i>10th Hampden</i> | <i>1/21/2011</i> |
| <i>Benjamin Swan</i> | <i>11th Hampden</i> | <i>2/4/2011</i> |

HOUSE No. 2710

By Ms. Coakley-Rivera of Springfield, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2710) of Cheryl A. Coakley-Rivera and Benjamin Swan for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General) relative to establishing a charter school for students diagnosed with Autism. Education.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 372 OF 2009-2010.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the Year Two Thousand Eleven
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An Act establishing a commission to study the feasibility of a charter school for students on the autism spectrum.

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

1 There shall be a special commission to investigate and study the feasibility of developing
2 a charter school, pursuant to section 89 of chapter 71, for children with diagnoses on the autism
3 spectrum. The commission shall consist of 11 members 1 of whom shall be the Secretary of
4 Health and Human Services, or his designee; 1 of whom shall be the Commissioner of the
5 Department of Public Health, or his designee; 1 of whom shall be the Commissioner of the
6 Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, or his designee; 2 of whom shall be
7 members of the Senate appointed by the Senate President; 2 members of the House of
8 Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House; 8 members shall be appointed by the
9 governor, 1 of whom shall be a representative selected from a list of 3 nominees proposed by the

10 Massachusetts Teachers Association, 1 of whom shall be a representative selected from a list of 3
11 nominees proposed by the Massachusetts Federation of Teachers, and 6 of whom shall be parents
12 of children on the autism spectrum appointed by the governor.

13 The commission shall file its recommendations with the Clerks of the House of
14 Representatives and the Senate, who shall forward the same to the Speaker of the House, the
15 Senate President and the Joint Committee on Education no later than December 31, 2012.