HOUSE No. 106

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Danielle W. Gregoire

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 regarding the use of aversive therapy.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
Danielle W. Gregoire	4th Middlesex	
Tom Sannicandro	7th Middlesex	
Dennis A. Rosa	4th Worcester	
Louis L. Kafka	8th Norfolk	
Tricia Farley-Bouvier	3rd Berkshire	
William Smitty Pignatelli	4th Berkshire	
Christine E. Canavan	10th Plymouth	
Mary S. Keefe	15th Worcester	
Katherine M. Clark	Fifth Middlesex	
Paul R. Heroux	2nd Bristol	
James M. Murphy	4th Norfolk	
Kevin J. Murphy	18th Middlesex	
Cory Atkins	14th Middlesex	
James B. Eldridge	Middlesex and Worcester	
Jonathan Hecht	29th Middlesex	
Carl M. Sciortino, Jr.	34th Middlesex	
Diana DiZoglio	14th Essex	

HOUSE No. 106

By Miss Gregoire of Marlborough, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 106) of Danielle W. Gregoire and others for legislation to prohibit the use of procedures which cause physical pain or deny a reasonable humane existence to persons with disabilities. Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities.

The Commonwealth of Alassachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen

An Act regarding the use of aversive therapy.

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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 16 of Chapter 6A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2010 official edition, is hereby amended by inserting the following text:-

No program, agency, or facility funded, operated, licensed, or approved by any agency or subdivision of the Commonwealth shall administer or cause to be administered to any person with a physical, intellectual, or developmental disability any procedure which causes obvious signs of physical pain, including, but not limited to, hitting, pinching, and electric shock for the purposes of changing the behavior of the person.

No such program may employ any form of physical contact or punishment that is otherwise prohibited by law, or would be prohibited if used on a non-disabled person.

No such program may employ any procedure which denies a person with a physical, intellectual, or developmental disability reasonable sleep, food, shelter, bedding, bathroom facilities, and any other aspect expected of a humane existence in the Commonwealth.