

**SENATE . . . . . No. 281**

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**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:	
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	
<i>Joan B. Lovely</i>	<i>Second Essex</i>	<i>3/4/2015</i>

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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.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**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 is hereby amended by adding  
2 the following subsection at the end of the section 2A:

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