

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 75**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Brian M. Ashe*

*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 relative to familial dysautonomia.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Brian M. Ashe</i>	<i>2nd Hampden</i>	<i>1/19/2017</i>
<i>Anne M. Gobi</i>	<i>Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire and Middlesex</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/24/2017</i>

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By Mr. Ashe of Longmeadow, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 75) of Brian M. Ashe, Anne M. Gobi and Denise Provost for legislation to provide that persons diagnosed with familial dysautonomia disorder receive certain services from the Department of Developmental Services. Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 67 OF 2015-2016.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court  
(2017-2018)**  
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An Act relative to familial dysautonomia.

*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. Notwithstanding chapter 19B or 123B of the General Laws, or any other  
2 general or special law to the contrary, persons diagnosed with familial dysautonomia shall be  
3 eligible for the same services and supports from the department of developmental services as  
4 persons with intellectual disabilities, as defined in section 1 of said chapter 123B and applicable  
5 rules and regulations of the department. For the purpose of providing services and supports  
6 pursuant to this act, a diagnosis with familial dysautonomia shall be conclusive evidence that the  
7 person so diagnosed qualifies as a person with an intellectual disability, as defined in said section  
8 1 of said chapter 123B and applicable rules and regulations.

9           SECTION 2. The department of developmental services, in coordination with physicians  
10 at the Baystate Medical Center in Springfield and, to the extent practicable, the Laboratory for  
11 Familial Dysautonomia Research at Fordham University, Bronx, NY, shall promulgate rules and  
12 regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of this act. The commissioner of developmental  
13 services shall submit any proposed regulations to the joint committee on children, families and  
14 persons with disabilities and the house and senate committees on ways and means for review and  
15 comment at least 21 days before their adoption by the department.