

HOUSE No. 93

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:
<i>Danielle W. Gregoire</i>	<i>4th Middlesex</i>
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>
<i>Jonathan Hecht</i>	<i>29th Middlesex</i>
<i>Michelle M. DuBois</i>	<i>10th Plymouth</i>
<i>Louis L. Kafka</i>	<i>8th Norfolk</i>

HOUSE No. 93

By Miss Gregoire of Marlborough, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 93) 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.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 89 OF 2015-2016.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

—————
**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
(2017-2018)**
—————

An Act regarding the use of aversive therapy.

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

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

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

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