

HOUSE No. 477

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Christine P. Barber

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 addressing the inequitable impact of the pandemic on Black and Latinx individuals with autism.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Christine P. Barber</i>	<i>34th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/16/2021</i>
<i>Jack Patrick Lewis</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Michelle M. DuBois</i>	<i>10th Plymouth</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Steven Ultrino</i>	<i>33rd Middlesex</i>	<i>3/6/2021</i>
<i>Lindsay N. Sabadosa</i>	<i>1st Hampshire</i>	<i>3/6/2021</i>
<i>Patricia A. Duffy</i>	<i>5th Hampden</i>	<i>3/6/2021</i>
<i>Patricia A. Haddad</i>	<i>5th Bristol</i>	<i>3/8/2021</i>
<i>Paul J. Donato</i>	<i>35th Middlesex</i>	<i>3/8/2021</i>
<i>Marcos A. Devers</i>	<i>16th Essex</i>	<i>3/8/2021</i>
<i>Paul F. Tucker</i>	<i>7th Essex</i>	<i>3/8/2021</i>
<i>Thomas M. Stanley</i>	<i>9th Middlesex</i>	<i>3/8/2021</i>
<i>Carmine Lawrence Gentile</i>	<i>13th Middlesex</i>	<i>3/16/2021</i>
<i>John J. Lawn, Jr.</i>	<i>10th Middlesex</i>	<i>3/16/2021</i>
<i>Jacob R. Oliveira</i>	<i>7th Hampden</i>	<i>3/16/2021</i>
<i>Kimberly N. Ferguson</i>	<i>1st Worcester</i>	<i>3/16/2021</i>
<i>Carlos González</i>	<i>10th Hampden</i>	<i>3/16/2021</i>
<i>Hannah Kane</i>	<i>11th Worcester</i>	<i>3/16/2021</i>

<i>Bruce E. Tarr</i>	<i>First Essex and Middlesex</i>	<i>3/25/2021</i>
<i>Brian W. Murray</i>	<i>10th Worcester</i>	<i>3/25/2021</i>
<i>Christina A. Minicucci</i>	<i>14th Essex</i>	<i>3/25/2021</i>
<i>Michelle L. Ciccolo</i>	<i>15th Middlesex</i>	<i>4/1/2021</i>
<i>Walter F. Timilty</i>	<i>Norfolk, Bristol and Plymouth</i>	<i>4/1/2021</i>
<i>Tackey Chan</i>	<i>2nd Norfolk</i>	<i>4/8/2021</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>	<i>4/8/2021</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	<i>4/29/2021</i>
<i>Nika C. Elugardo</i>	<i>15th Suffolk</i>	<i>5/6/2021</i>
<i>Natalie M. Higgins</i>	<i>4th Worcester</i>	<i>9/8/2021</i>

HOUSE No. 477

By Ms. Barber of Somerville, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 477) of Christine P. Barber and others relative to the inequitable impact of the pandemic on Black and Latinx individuals with autism. Covid-19 and Emergency Preparedness and Management.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court
(2021-2022)**

An Act addressing the inequitable impact of the pandemic on Black and Latinx individuals with autism.

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 217 of chapter 6 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2018
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting in subsection (b) after the word “spectrum” the
3 following words: --, including but not limited to implementation of the 13 recommendations for
4 Black and Latinx individuals with autism and individuals with autism from families with limited
5 English proficiency, with periodic benchmarks and cost estimates for a coordinated system-wide
6 response to address the inequitable impact of the pandemic and recovery process on Black and
7 Latinx individuals with autism

8 SECTION 2: The second sentence of subsection (c) of said section 217 of said chapter 6,
9 as so appearing, is hereby amended by adding the following words: --; provided further that the
10 Commission shall obtain and investigate all available data and information regarding the range
11 of services and supports provided to individuals with autism by each major racial and ethnic
12 group, primary language, sex, and economic status; and further provided that the Commission

13 shall investigate the inequitable impact of the pandemic on Black and Latinx individuals who
14 have autism in order to fully address such inequities during the recovery.

15 SECTION 3: The fourth sentence of said subsection (c) of said section 217 of said
16 chapter 6, as so appearing, is hereby amended by adding the following words:-- and any
17 regulatory and legislative action necessary to address the inequitable impact of the pandemic and
18 recovery process on Black and Latinx Individuals who have autism.