

**SENATE . . . . . No. 1472****The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Joan B. Lovely***

*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 impacts of the pandemic on Black and Latinx individuals with autism.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Joan B. Lovely</i>	<i>Second Essex</i>	
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Steven Ultrino</i>	<i>33rd Middlesex</i>	<i>3/5/2021</i>
<i>Marcos A. Devers</i>	<i>16th Essex</i>	<i>3/8/2021</i>
<i>Thomas M. Stanley</i>	<i>9th Middlesex</i>	<i>3/8/2021</i>
<i>Paul F. Tucker</i>	<i>7th Essex</i>	<i>3/8/2021</i>
<i>Michael O. Moore</i>	<i>Second Worcester</i>	<i>3/8/2021</i>
<i>Carmine Lawrence Gentile</i>	<i>13th Middlesex</i>	<i>3/9/2021</i>
<i>Elizabeth A. Malia</i>	<i>11th Suffolk</i>	<i>3/15/2021</i>
<i>Hannah Kane</i>	<i>11th Worcester</i>	<i>3/15/2021</i>
<i>Bruce E. Tarr</i>	<i>First Essex and Middlesex</i>	<i>3/24/2021</i>
<i>Walter F. Timilty</i>	<i>Norfolk, Bristol and Plymouth</i>	<i>3/29/2021</i>
<i>Joanne M. Comerford</i>	<i>Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester</i>	<i>4/1/2021</i>
<i>Jack Patrick Lewis</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>	<i>4/7/2021</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	<i>4/27/2021</i>

# SENATE . . . . . No. 1472

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By Ms. Lovely, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1472) of Joan B. Lovely, Kay Khan, Steven Ultrino, Marcos A. Devers and other members of the General Court for legislation to address the inequitable impacts of the pandemic on Black and Latinx individuals with autism. Public Health.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act addressing the inequitable impacts 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” on  
3   line 60 the following words:-

4           including, but not limited to, implementation of the 13 recommendations for Black and  
5   Latinx individuals with autism and individuals with autism from families with limited English  
6   proficiency, with periodic benchmarks and cost estimates for a coordinated system-wide  
7   response to address the inequitable impact of the pandemic and recovery process on Black and  
8   Latinx individuals with autism

9           SECTION 2. Said section 217 of said chapter 6, as so appearing, is hereby amended by  
10   inserting in subsection (c) after the word "communities" in line 77 the following words:-

11 ; provided further, that the Commission shall obtain and investigate all available data and  
12 information regarding the range of services and supports provided to individuals with autism by  
13 each major racial and ethnic group, primary language, sex and economic status; and provided  
14 further, that the Commission shall investigate the inequitable impact of the pandemic on Black  
15 and Latinx individuals who have autism in order to address such inequities during the recovery

16 SECTION 3. Said subsection (c) of said section 217 of said chapter 6, as so appearing, is  
17 hereby amended by inserting after the word "supports" in line 85 the following words:-

18 and any regulatory and legislative action necessary to address the inequitable impact of  
19 the pandemic and recovery process on Black and Latinx Individuals who have autism