

HOUSE No. 3950

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf

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 supporting parents in recovery from substance use disorder and enhancing child welfare.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf</i>	<i>17th Worcester</i>	<i>1/16/2025</i>

HOUSE No. 3950

By Representative LeBoeuf of Worcester, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3950) of David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf relative to parents in recovery from substance use disorder and child welfare. Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court
(2025-2026)

An Act relative to supporting parents in recovery from substance use disorder and enhancing child welfare.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Chapter 119A of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 51B the
2 following section:-

3 Section 51B½. (a) If a parent has an action plan developed by the department pursuant to
4 subsection (g) of section 51B for services related to the parent's substance use disorder, as
5 defined by section 35 of chapter 123, the department shall allow the parent to direct the creation
6 of the plan, where appropriate, and shall meet with the parent prior to finalizing the plan.

7 (b) The department shall include in an action plan a list of available and accessible
8 resources for any service required under such plan.

9 (c) Where parenting time is restricted or limited and the parent has an action plan with the
10 department, the department shall include in the action plan objective standards that the parent
11 can meet in order to increase their parenting time, subject to approval by a court if necessary.

12 (d) A parent with substance use disorder shall be permitted to have a recovery coach or
13 an alcohol and drug counselor, licensed pursuant to chapter 111J, present in any meeting with an
14 employee of the department or a member of a multi-disciplinary team monitoring the action plan
15 pursuant to section 51D.

16 (e) If a parent with substance use disorder has an action plan with the department, the
17 department shall allow family counseling after the parent has maintained recovery for at least 6
18 months. The department shall permit family counseling only if appropriate and in the best
19 interests of the child.

20 (f) All department employees shall have training on issues related to substance use
21 disorders, which shall include training from peers with lived experience that are professionals
22 working in the department or another agency of the commonwealth. The department shall
23 consult with medical professionals and the persons working in or with lived experience in the
24 recovery community for the development and updating of training standards.