

HOUSE No. 514

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 to improve augmentative and alternative communication opportunities for children with disabilities.

PETITION OF:

| NAME: | DISTRICT/ADDRESS: | DATE ADDED: |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|
| <i>Christine P. Barber</i> | <i>34th Middlesex</i> | <i>1/10/2025</i> |
| <i>Rodney M. Elliott</i> | <i>16th Middlesex</i> | <i>2/13/2025</i> |
| <i>Ryan C. Fattman</i> | <i>Worcester and Hampden</i> | <i>2/18/2025</i> |
| <i>Kimberly N. Ferguson</i> | <i>1st Worcester</i> | <i>2/18/2025</i> |
| <i>Sean Garballey</i> | <i>23rd Middlesex</i> | <i>2/20/2025</i> |
| <i>Carmine Lawrence Gentile</i> | <i>13th Middlesex</i> | <i>2/19/2025</i> |
| <i>Carlos González</i> | <i>10th Hampden</i> | <i>2/19/2025</i> |
| <i>James K. Hawkins</i> | <i>2nd Bristol</i> | <i>2/11/2025</i> |
| <i>Natalie M. Higgins</i> | <i>4th Worcester</i> | <i>3/16/2025</i> |
| <i>Vanna Howard</i> | <i>17th Middlesex</i> | <i>2/5/2025</i> |
| <i>Hannah Kane</i> | <i>11th Worcester</i> | <i>2/14/2025</i> |
| <i>Patrick Joseph Kearney</i> | <i>4th Plymouth</i> | <i>1/31/2025</i> |
| <i>Mary S. Keefe</i> | <i>15th Worcester</i> | <i>3/4/2025</i> |
| <i>David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf</i> | <i>17th Worcester</i> | <i>6/25/2025</i> |
| <i>Jason M. Lewis</i> | <i>Fifth Middlesex</i> | <i>2/19/2025</i> |
| <i>John J. Marsi</i> | <i>6th Worcester</i> | <i>2/13/2025</i> |
| <i>Samantha Montaña</i> | <i>15th Suffolk</i> | <i>3/10/2025</i> |

| | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|
| <i>Sean Reid</i> | <i>11th Essex</i> | <i>2/18/2025</i> |
| <i>Danillo A. Sena</i> | <i>37th Middlesex</i> | <i>4/9/2025</i> |
| <i>Thomas M. Stanley</i> | <i>9th Middlesex</i> | <i>2/18/2025</i> |
| <i>Mark D. Sylvia</i> | <i>10th Bristol</i> | <i>4/14/2025</i> |
| <i>Bruce E. Tarr</i> | <i>First Essex and Middlesex</i> | <i>2/26/2025</i> |
| <i>Erika Uytterhoeven</i> | <i>27th Middlesex</i> | <i>2/19/2025</i> |
| <i>Susannah M. Whipps</i> | <i>2nd Franklin</i> | <i>2/18/2025</i> |

HOUSE No. 514

By Representative Barber of Somerville, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 514) of Christine P. Barber and others for legislation to improve augmentative and alternative communication opportunities for school children with disabilities. Education.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 433 OF 2023-2024.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act to improve augmentative and alternative communication opportunities for children with disabilities.

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

1 Notwithstanding any general or special law, rule, or regulation to the contrary, the board
2 of elementary and secondary education shall repromulgate 603 CMR 7.03(3) as necessary to
3 establish the requirement that all approved programs for teachers include instruction on the
4 appropriate use of augmentative and alternative communication and other assistive technologies;
5 provided further the board may require that individual professional development plans required
6 by section 38G of chapter 71 address the learning needs of students who are nonverbal or have
7 limited speech requiring augmentative and alternative communication.