

**HOUSE . . . . . No.**

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**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:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Danielle W. Gregoire</i>	<i>4th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/14/2025</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No.**

[Pin Slip]

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 180 OF 2023-2024.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

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 2022  
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.