

## HOUSE . . . . . No.

# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

*Michelle L. Badger and Kathleen R. LaNatra*

*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 early intervention services for children with prenatal exposure to opioids.

**PETITION OF:**

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Michelle L. Badger</i>	<i>1st Plymouth</i>	<i>1/5/2026</i>

# HOUSE . . . . .      No.

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By Representatives Badger of Plymouth and LaNatra of Kingston, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Michelle L. Badger relative to early intervention services for children with prenatal exposure to opioids. Public Health.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

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An Act relative to early intervention services for children with prenatal exposure to opioids.

*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 of Chapter 111G of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by  
2 inserting at the end thereof the following definitions:-

3        "Substance-Exposed Newborn", a newborn who was exposed to alcohol or other drugs  
4 ingested by the mother in utero, whether or not this exposure is detected at birth through a drug  
5 screen or withdrawal symptoms.

6        "Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome", symptoms and signs exhibited by a newborn due to  
7 drug withdrawal, the term used to represent the pattern of effects that are associated with opioid  
8 withdrawal in newborns.

9        Section 2 of Chapter 111G of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by  
10 inserting at the end thereof the following paragraph:-

11           The department shall review and revise the early intervention operational standards to  
12   ensure that children under the age of 3, who are diagnosed with Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome  
13   and children under the age of 3, who meet the definition of substance-exposed newborns, are  
14   deemed categorically eligible for early intervention services until the child's third birthday.