SENATE DOCKET, NO. 361 FILED ON: 1/12/2025

SENATE . . . . . No. 418

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Patrick M. O'Connor

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:	
Patrick M. O'Connor	*First Plymouth and Norfolk*	
John J. Marsi	*6th Worcester*	*2/13/2025*
Hannah Kane	*11th Worcester*	*2/14/2025*
Ryan C. Fattman	*Worcester and Hampden*	*2/18/2025*
Joanne M. Comerford	*Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester*	*2/18/2025*
Kimberly N. Ferguson	*1st Worcester*	*2/20/2025*
Thomas M. Stanley	*9th Middlesex*	*2/20/2025*
Jason M. Lewis	*Fifth Middlesex*	*2/20/2025*
John F. Keenan	*Norfolk and Plymouth*	*2/28/2025*
Michael O. Moore	*Second Worcester*	*4/23/2025*
Paul R. Feeney	*Bristol and Norfolk*	*4/28/2025*
Mark D. Sylvia	*10th Bristol*	*5/6/2025*

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By Mr. O'Connor, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 418) of Patrick M. O'Connor, John J. Marsi, Hannah Kane, Ryan C. Fattman and other members of the General Court for legislation to improve augmentative and alternative communication opportunities for children with disabilities. Education.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. *326* 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:

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