

HOUSE No. 2872

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Alice Hanlon Peisch

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 dyslexia.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Alice Hanlon Peisch</i>	<i>14th Norfolk</i>
<i>Shaunna L. O'Connell</i>	<i>3rd Bristol</i>
<i>Cory Atkins</i>	<i>14th Middlesex</i>
<i>Bruce J. Ayers</i>	<i>1st Norfolk</i>
<i>Tackey Chan</i>	<i>2nd Norfolk</i>
<i>RoseLee Vincent</i>	<i>16th Suffolk</i>
<i>James R. Miceli</i>	<i>19th Middlesex</i>
<i>Marjorie C. Decker</i>	<i>25th Middlesex</i>
<i>Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr.</i>	<i>12th Hampden</i>
<i>James J. Dwyer</i>	<i>30th Middlesex</i>
<i>Todd M. Smola</i>	<i>1st Hampden</i>
<i>Kenneth I. Gordon</i>	<i>21st Middlesex</i>
<i>Jay R. Kaufman</i>	<i>15th Middlesex</i>
<i>Jennifer E. Benson</i>	<i>37th Middlesex</i>
<i>John F. Keenan</i>	<i>Norfolk and Plymouth</i>
<i>David K. Muradian, Jr.</i>	<i>9th Worcester</i>
<i>Bradley H. Jones, Jr.</i>	<i>20th Middlesex</i>
<i>Shawn Dooley</i>	<i>9th Norfolk</i>

<i>Louis L. Kafka</i>	<i>8th Norfolk</i>
<i>Ryan C. Fattman</i>	<i>Worcester and Norfolk</i>
<i>James M. Cantwell</i>	<i>4th Plymouth</i>
<i>Solomon Goldstein-Rose</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>
<i>Keiko M. Orrall</i>	<i>12th Bristol</i>
<i>Joan B. Lovely</i>	<i>Second Essex</i>
<i>Patrick M. O'Connor</i>	<i>Plymouth and Norfolk</i>
<i>Thomas J. Calter</i>	<i>12th Plymouth</i>
<i>Brian Murray</i>	<i>10th Worcester</i>
<i>John W. Scibak</i>	<i>2nd Hampshire</i>
<i>James M. Murphy</i>	<i>4th Norfolk</i>
<i>Michael O. Moore</i>	<i>Second Worcester</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>
<i>Jonathan Hecht</i>	<i>29th Middlesex</i>
<i>Paul Brodeur</i>	<i>32nd Middlesex</i>
<i>Jack Lewis</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>
<i>Marc T. Lombardo</i>	<i>22nd Middlesex</i>
<i>John J. Lawn, Jr.</i>	<i>10th Middlesex</i>
<i>David M. Rogers</i>	<i>24th Middlesex</i>
<i>Hannah Kane</i>	<i>11th Worcester</i>
<i>Sean Garballey</i>	<i>23rd Middlesex</i>

HOUSE No. 2872

By Ms. Peisch of Wellesley, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2872) of Alice Hanlon Peisch and others for legislation to develop screening procedures for students for dyslexia and other potential indicators of neurological learning disabilities. Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
(2017-2018)**

An Act relative to dyslexia.

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: Chapter 71 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after
2 section 57 the following section:-

3 Section 57A. (a) For the purposes of this section, “Neurological Learning Disability”
4 shall mean a specific learning disability including, but not limited to, dyslexia, that is
5 neurological in origin with indicators that include, but not limited to, phonemic awareness, rapid
6 automatized naming, and letter sound knowledge.

7 (b) The department of elementary and secondary education shall issue guidelines for
8 districts, subject to appropriation, to develop screening procedures or protocols for students for
9 potential indicators of a neurological learning disability including, but not limited to, dyslexia.

10 SECTION 2: Section 1 of Chapter 287 of the Acts of 2012 is hereby amended by
11 inserting after the word “assessments”, in line 40, the following words:-- “, identification of
12 reading disabilities including dyslexia”.

13 SECTION 3: Said section 1 of said chapter 287 of the Acts of 2012 is hereby further
14 amended by inserting after the word “development”, in line 51, the following:-- “; and (7) action
15 steps to implement the research-based recommendations contained in reports written by experts
16 in early language and literacy development with respect to reading disabilities including
17 dyslexia; provided that, in developing its recommendations, the panel shall solicit input from at
18 least one organization representing families of children with dyslexia”.