



## An Act Relative to Persons with Disabilities S61 and H155

Co-Sponsored by

Sen. Joan Lovely & Rep. Jim O'Day

**2/3/2020: House Bill H155 is now**

**In the Third Reading**

**Please contact Rep. Speliotis to forward it to the  
House Floor for a vote.**

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### **Fast Facts: This Bill...**

**ADOPTS** the federal definition of developmental disability in place of the current state definition of developmental disability;

**REMOVES** the language in the current definition of a developmental disability that limits it to only “intellectual disability, Autism, Smith-Magenis syndrome or Prader-Willi syndrome;” &

**AMENDS** the definition of a developmental disability to include all individuals with a developmental disability.

### **Developmental Disabilities United**

We are an ad-hoc collaboration of families affected by developmental disabilities and advocates who urge adoption of this bill. We envision a Commonwealth in which all individuals with a developmental disability are recognized and have full access, throughout their lifetimes, to all the supports and services they require to be contributing members of our community, to the fullest extent of their desire and capability. There are many people with developmental disabilities who are eager to be contributing members of our society, yet need support to do so. The current definition limits access to essential services that can help them thrive. Adopting the federal definition will be to the benefit of our Commonwealth, and for the common good.

For more information: **[enidwatson@healthrecovery.org](mailto:enidwatson@healthrecovery.org)**