

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts MASSACHUSETTS SENATE

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SENATOR WILLIAM N. BROWNSBERGER

Second Suffolk and Middlesex District

STATE HOUSE, ROOM 413C BOSTON, MA 02133-1053 TEL. (617) 722-1280 FAX (617) 722-1069

WILLIAM.BROWNSBERGER@MASENATE.GOV www.MASENATE.GOV

TO:

Joint Committee on Education

FROM:

Senator William N. Brownsberger J. U.S.

RE:

House Bill 344

DATE:

September 18, 2013

I am writing in favor of H344, An Act to increase capacity to address the complex needs of students with autism.

This legislation will require the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to provide an endorsement in autism, such that the individualized education program (IEP) for every student with autism will include a special education teacher with an endorsement in autism. This will help to improve services provided to children with autism.

I urge the Committee to report this legislation favorably.