



# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

MASSACHUSETTS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
STATE HOUSE BOSTON, MA 02133

**RE: H.129 An Act to Provide Equal Access to Evaluations for Children with Disabilities**  
**DT: July 14, 2015**

Dear Honorable Chairs and Members of the Joint Committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities,

Thank you for considering bill H.129 An Act to Provide Equal Access to Evaluations for Children with Disabilities.

The bills focus on establishing fair and consistent rates for independent educational evaluations for children with disabilities is vital to its legislation. Evaluation programs are imperative for a child with a disability, as it provides the child and the parents, with the appropriate framework to determine the child's individualized education program. Many State neuropsychological evaluation programs are provided to parents across the Commonwealth, at a rate that is fair to most families of the Commonwealth. Yet if a parent disagrees with the States evaluation, it is there right to disagree with the evaluation. What still is the issue is lower to mid income families can't act on their right as rates for a private evaluation are often far more expensive.

H.129 An Act to Provide Equal Access to Evaluations for Children with Disabilities is a bill that provides parents of disabled children the right to pursue a private evaluation by establishing rates that are fair for all families of the Commonwealth. This bill will help many families across the Commonwealth, all at a relatively low cost. Being in favor of this bill is not only important but it is plausible, as it enables parents of the Commonwealth, whose child is disabled, to enact on their rights.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul Heroux".

Representative Paul Heroux