

November 30, 2017



## ***Hearing on Aversives Bill***

On Dec. 5th, 2017, the Joint Committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities will hold a hearing for H 93 "An Act Regarding the Use of Aversive Therapy". This bill would ban the use of any therapies or devices that produce pain or harm for the treatment of behavior modification.

For many years, the disability community has been fighting to outlaw this form of aversive therapy using GEDs (Graduated Electronic Decelerators) which provide an electrical shock to an individual for wrong behavior. This is plain and simple torture, inhuman and is practiced on individuals with severe disabilities. Massachusetts is the only state that still allows this barbaric treatment. Every other state and the rest of the world practice other forms of positive behavior modification, but we still continue to torture members of our community.

***Come to the hearing, speak out and support disability rights.***

Sincerely,  
Paul Spooner, Executive Director

*Thank you to Disability Policy Consortium for this news.*

## **Hearing on Aversives Bill**

**When:**

Tuesday, December 5, 2017, 12:00 noon (*new date*)

**Where:**

Room B-1  
Massachusetts State House  
Boston

The Joint Committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities will hold a hearing on [H93 "An Act Regarding the Use of Aversive Therapy"](#).

This is the aversives bill which would ban the inhumane use of aversives in the form of electric shocks to autistic and other developmentally disabled people. We have been fighting this for over thirty years. Many of you have shown up at the State House time and time again to fight this. Unfortunately, we must do this once more.

To request reasonable accommodations email Carl Richardson, the ADA Coordinator at the State House, at least one business day (and preferably more) prior to the hearing, at [carl.richardson@state.ma.us](mailto:carl.richardson@state.ma.us). Explain what bill you are testifying for and the reasonable accommodations you require.

If you cannot make it that day, please email your testimony. All testimony should include your full name, address and contact information, as well as any degrees you hold, affiliations, etc.

JoinREV UP - Make the Disability Vote count!

For more information, visit [www.revupma.org](http://www.revupma.org).



Sign up for our Newsletters and Action Alerts.

**Subscribe**



MetroWest Center for Independent Living  
(508)875-7853  
280 Irving Street, Framingham, MA 01702  
[info@mwcil.org](mailto:info@mwcil.org) | [www.mwcil.org](http://www.mwcil.org) | [FaceBook](#)



MetroWest Center for Independent Living | 280 Irving Street | Framingham | MA | 01702