SENATE DOCKET, NO. 1635 FILED ON: 1/21/2011

# SENATE . . . . . No. 183

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

***Harriette L. Chandler***

*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 passage of the accompanying:

An Act to design, pilot, and implement civics as a high school graduation requirement.

PETITION OF:

| NAME: | DISTRICT/ADDRESS: |
|---|---|
| *Harriette L. Chandler* | ☐ *[District]* ☐ |
| *Sonia Chang-Diaz* | ☐ *[District]* ☐ |
| *Kathi-Anne Reinstein* | *16th Suffolk* |
| *Byron Rushing* | *9th Suffolk* |
| *Eileen M. Donoghue* | ☐ *[District]* ☐ |
| *James B. Eldridge* | ☐ *[District]* ☐ |
| *Jennifer L. Flanagan* | ☐ *[District]* ☐ |
| *Michael O. Moore* | |

| | |
|---|---|
| | □ *[District]*<br>□ |
| *Richard T. Moore* | □ *[District]*<br>□ |
| *James Arciero* | *2nd Middlesex* |
| *Cory Atkins* | *14th Middlesex* |
| *Denise Andrews* | *2nd Franklin* |
| *Thomas P. Conroy* | *13th Middlesex* |
| *Gloria L. Fox* | *7th Suffolk* |
| *John P. Fresolo* | *16th Worcester* |
| *Sean Garballey* | *23rd Middlesex* |
| *Thomas A. Golden, Jr.* | *16th Middlesex* |
| *Kate Hogan* | *3rd Middlesex* |
| *Louis L. Kafka* | *8th Norfolk* |
| *Kay Khan* | *11th Middlesex* |
| *David M. Nangle* | *17th Middlesex* |
| *James J. O'Day* | *14th Worcester* |
| *Brian M. Ashe* | *2nd Hampden* |
| *Carl M. Sciortino, Jr.* | *34th Middlesex* |
| *Stephen Stat Smith* | *28th Middlesex* |
| *Richard Bastien* | *2nd Worcester* |
| *Frank I. Smizik* | *15th Norfolk* |
| *Ellen Story* | *3rd Hampshire* |
| *Michael F. Rush* | *Suffolk and Norfolk* |
| *Linda Campbell* | *15th Essex* |
| *Jason M. Lewis* | *31st Middlesex* |
| *Karen E. Spilka* | □ *[District]*<br>□ |
| *Ruth B. Balser* | *12th Middlesex* |
| *Stephen L. DiNatale* | *3rd Worcester* |
| *Tom Sannicandro* | *7th Middlesex* |
| *Carolyn C. Dykema* | *8th Middlesex* |
| *Jonathan Hecht* | *29th Middlesex* |
| *Thomas M. Stanley* | *9th Middlesex* |
| *David B. Sullivan* | *6th Bristol* |

SENATE DOCKET, NO. 1635 FILED ON: 1/21/2011

# SENATE . . . . . No. 183

By Ms. Chandler, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 183) of Harriette L. Chandler, Sonia Chang-Diaz, Kathi-Anne Reinstein, Byron Rushing and other members of the General Court for legislation to design civics as a high school graduation requirement. Education.

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

An Act to design, pilot, and implement civics as a high school graduation requirement.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

SECTION 1: Section 2 of Chapter 71 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2008 Official Edition, is amended, in line 7, by inserting after " … for the duties of citizenship." The following:

Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and the Executive Office of Education, in collaboration with a youth advisory committee, shall develop a new curriculum for a High School Civics course which shall include but not be limited to: Function and composition of the branches of local, state, and federal government, the history of social movements, current events, and community-based action and service-learning projects. The curriculum shall be developed no later than May 1, 2012. The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and the Executive Office of Education, in collaboration with a youth advisory committee, shall also develop a pilot program for the implementation of this course which shall begin no later than the beginning of the 2012-2013 academic school year. The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and the Executive Office of Education, in collaboration with a youth advisory committee, shall also develop a plan for full implementation of this civics course as a high school graduation requirement to begin no later than the first day of the 2014-2015 academic school year.

SECTION 2: There shall be a youth advisory committee consisting of 2 members of the Governor's Youth Council, 2 members of the State Student Advisory Council, 1 member of the Special Commission on Civic Engagement and Learning, 5 members of Teens Leading The Way, and 2 youth designated by the Board of Education.

22 SECTION 3: The youth advisory committee, representatives from the Department of
23 Elementary and Secondary Education and the Executive Office of Education shall convene their
24 first meeting not later than 60 days after the effective date of this act.