

HOUSE No. 2007

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Paul A. Schmid, III and Bradley H. Jones, Jr.

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 adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act for no organized head impacts to schoolchildren.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Paul A. Schmid, III</i>	<i>8th Bristol</i>
<i>Bradley H. Jones, Jr.</i>	<i>20th Middlesex</i>
<i>Tricia Farley-Bouvier</i>	<i>3rd Berkshire</i>
<i>Kimberly N. Ferguson</i>	<i>1st Worcester</i>
<i>Carole A. Fiola</i>	<i>6th Bristol</i>
<i>Susan Williams Gifford</i>	<i>2nd Plymouth</i>
<i>Kenneth I. Gordon</i>	<i>21st Middlesex</i>
<i>James K. Hawkins</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>
<i>Stephan Hay</i>	<i>3rd Worcester</i>
<i>Louis L. Kafka</i>	<i>8th Norfolk</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>
<i>Mathew J. Muratore</i>	<i>1st Plymouth</i>
<i>Elizabeth A. Poirier</i>	<i>14th Bristol</i>
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>
<i>Alan Silvia</i>	<i>7th Bristol</i>
<i>Bud L. Williams</i>	<i>11th Hampden</i>
<i>Donald H. Wong</i>	<i>9th Essex</i>

HOUSE No. 2007

By Messrs. Schmid of Westport and Jones of North Reading, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2007) of Paul A. Schmid, III, Bradley H. Jones, Jr., and others for legislation to prevent the practice of tackle football for children in grade seven or under. Public Health.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court
(2019-2020)**

An Act for no organized head impacts to schoolchildren.

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

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 111 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2016 Official Edition,
2 is hereby amended by inserting after section 222 the following new section:-

3 Section 222A. (a) No child in grade seven or under shall play, practice, or otherwise
4 participate in organized tackle football; provided however, that nothing within this section shall
5 prohibit children in grade seven or under from playing, practicing, or otherwise participating in
6 any form of football which does not involve tackling

7 (b) Except as provided in subsections (c) and (d) of this section, any school, league or
8 other entity whose purpose is to allow children to participate in football who violates, disobeys,
9 or disregards any term or provision of this chapter, shall be subject to a civil penalty of not more
10 than two thousand dollars for every such violation.

11 (c) The penalty provided for in subsection (b) of this section may be increased to an
12 amount not to exceed five thousand dollars for a subsequent violation if the school, league or

13 other entity whose purpose is to allow children to participate in football committed the same
14 violation, with respect to the same or any other person or persons, within twelve months of the
15 initial violation for which the penalty was assessed pursuant to subsection (b) of this section and
16 said violations were a serious threat to the health and safety of an individuals or individuals.

17 (d) The penalty provided for in subsection (b) of this section may be increased to an
18 amount not to exceed ten thousand dollars if the violation directly results in serious physical
19 harm to any participant or participants.