

HOUSE No. 3549

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Nine

An Act relative to civics education in schools..

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. Section 2 of Chapter 71 of the General Laws is amended, in line 3, by
2 striking the words “in all public high schools” and inserting the words “from sixth to twelfth
3 grade in all public schools”; and is further amended in line 2, by inserting after the words
4 “United States” the following:

5 “the articles of confederation, the history of the political climate that led to the American
6 Revolution, the federal structure which emphasizes the vertical separation of powers and the
7 relationship of the constitutions of the commonwealth and county”; and is further amended in
8 line 7, by adding after the words “duties of citizenship.” The following:

9 “Course material shall be taught as originally drafted with no intentional
10 omissions of the original intent of the founding fathers. The teaching of a revisionist form of
11 history shall be considered invalid.

12 “The successful completion of a course in civics during the twelfth grade year
13 shall be mandated as a requirement for all students in order to receive their high school diploma.

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15 “SECTION 2. The department shall take all reasonable efforts to accomplish the
16 establishment of necessary regulations by June 30, 2010, in order that the provisions of this act
17 may be implemented in the following school year.”