

HOUSE No. 4283

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Nine

Resolve establishing a commission relative to an index of creative and innovative education in the Commonwealth.

1 Resolved, There is hereby established a Special Commission to develop an Index of
2 Creative and Innovative Education in the Commonwealth’s Public Schools.

3 The commission membership shall include: 5 members to be appointed by the governor
4 and who shall reside in different geographic regions of the commonwealth, 1 of whom shall be a
5 representative of the Massachusetts Advocates for the Arts, Sciences and Humanities, 1 of whom
6 shall be a representative of the Associated Industries of Massachusetts, 1 of whom shall be a
7 representative of the Massachusetts Business Roundtable; the commissioner of elementary and
8 secondary education, or a designee; the secretary of housing and economic development, or a
9 designee; the secretary of labor and workforce development, or a designee; 3 members to be
10 appointed by the president of the senate and who shall reside in different geographic regions of
11 the commonwealth; 3 members to be appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives
12 and who shall reside in different geographic regions of the Commonwealth; and the executive
13 director of the Massachusetts Cultural Council. Each of the members of the commission shall be
14 an expert or have experience in the fields of education, public policy, artistic development,

15 workforce development or cultural development. The members of the commission shall be
16 appointed no later than 30 days after the effective date of this resolve.

17 In the course of its deliberations, the commission shall develop recommendations on how
18 to produce and implement an Index of Creative and Innovative Education in the
19 Commonwealth's Public Schools, what funding or finance measures the commonwealth would
20 need to implement such an index, and any recommendation for inter-agency agreements, inter-
21 municipal agreements, or other cooperative agreements that would be required to foster creative
22 and innovative education programs in the commonwealth's public schools. The index shall rate
23 every public school in the commonwealth on teaching, encouraging, and fostering creativity in
24 students. The index would be based in part on the creative opportunities in each school as
25 measured by the availability of classes and before and after-school programs offered by and
26 through school districts in the commonwealth that provide creative opportunities for students in
27 the public schools of the commonwealth, including, but not limited to, arts education, debate
28 clubs, science fairs, theatre performances, concerts, film-making, and independent research.

29 The commission may hold public hearings to assist in the collection and evaluation of
30 data and testimony.

31 The commission shall complete a written report detailing any factors to be considered in
32 an Index of Creative and Innovative Education in the Commonwealth's Public Schools and any
33 financial measures that would be needed for implementation. The commission shall submit its
34 report to the governor, the clerks of the house of representatives and the senate, the joint
35 committee on tourism, arts and cultural development, and the joint committee on education no
36 later than December 31, 2010.

37 Any research, analysis or other staff support that the commission reasonably requires
38 shall be provided by the department of elementary and secondary education, the executive office
39 of housing and economic development, and the executive office of labor and workforce
40 development, in cooperation with the Massachusetts Cultural Council.