

SENATE No. 56

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Nine

An Act to promote healthy behaviors..

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

1 1. Chapter 111 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 24J, the
2 following section:- Section 24K. The department shall establish a program of community based
3 health and sexuality education services provided by comprehensive family planning agencies.
4 Said program shall be designed to promote healthy behaviors among adolescents and/or
5 guardians by providing science based health information and education.

6 Community based health education staff shall promote healthy behaviors within the
7 community by providing specialized education and outreach to targeted high risk populations,
8 parents and guardians and to staff of community based agencies providing services to young
9 people. Said specialized education and outreach program shall include efforts to reduce
10 unintended pregnancy; promote abstinence in order to delay adolescent sexual activity; increase
11 parental ability to communicate with their children about healthy sexuality; and reduce unhealthy
12 risk taking behavior among all individuals.

13 For the purposes of the section, comprehensive family planning agencies shall be defined
14 pursuant to section 24E of this chapter.