

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1050**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*James J. Dwyer*

*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 establishing a virtual school working group.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>James J. Dwyer</i>	<i>30th Middlesex</i>
<i>Stephen L. DiNatale</i>	<i>3rd Worcester</i>
<i>Ellen Story</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>
<i>Paul J. Andrews</i>	<i>Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents 756 Marrett Road Lexington, MA 02421</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1050**

By Mr. Dwyer of Woburn, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1050) of James J. Dwyer, Stephen L. DiNatale and Ellen Story relative to establishing a virtual school working group to study the feasibility of providing instruction to students through distance learning, including online learning programs and courses. Education.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**In the Year Two Thousand Eleven**

An Act establishing a virtual school working group.

*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. There is hereby established a virtual school working group to study the  
2 establishment virtual public schools that provide instruction to students through distance  
3 learning, including online learning programs and courses.

4 SECTION 2. The working group shall consist of: the speaker of the house of  
5 representatives, or his designee, who shall serve as co-chair; the president of the senate, or his  
6 designee, who shall serve as co-chair; the house and senate chairs of the joint committee on  
7 education; the secretary of education, or her designee; one appointee from the Massachusetts  
8 Association of School Superintendents; one appointee from the Massachusetts Association of  
9 School Committees; one appointee of the Governor which shall be an individual with a distance  
10 learning background; and the Commissioner of Education, or his designee.

11 SECTION 3. In carrying out its charge, the working group shall examine, report on, and  
12 make recommendations regarding, the following matters:-

- 13 a) Enrollment procedures including school district notification of intent
- 14 b) Time frame of planning and establishment of virtual school
- 15 c) Student recruitment and retention information