

HOUSE No. 177

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Alice K. Wolf

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 to respond to school exclusion data and reduce school dropouts.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Alice K. Wolf</i>	<i>25th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/19/2011</i>
<i>Cory Atkins</i>	<i>14th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/1/2011</i>
<i>Denise Andrews</i>	<i>2nd Franklin</i>	<i>2/2/2011</i>
<i>David B. Sullivan</i>	<i>6th Bristol</i>	<i>2/4/2011</i>
<i>Kevin G. Honan</i>	<i>17th Suffolk</i>	<i>2/4/2011</i>
<i>Thomas P. Conroy</i>	<i>13th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/31/2011</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/24/2011</i>
<i>Elizabeth A. Malia</i>	<i>11th Suffolk</i>	<i>1/28/2011</i>
<i>Carl M. Sciortino, Jr.</i>	<i>34th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/27/2011</i>
<i>James J. O'Day</i>	<i>14th Worcester</i>	<i>1/28/2011</i>
<i>Patricia D. Jehlen</i>		<i>2/3/2011</i>
<i>Tom Sannicandro</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/2/2011</i>
<i>William N. Brownsberger</i>		<i>2/2/2011</i>
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/3/2011</i>
<i>Antonio F. D. Cabral</i>	<i>13th Bristol</i>	<i>2/4/2011</i>
<i>Karen E. Spilka</i>		<i>2/4/2011</i>
<i>Alice Hanlon Peisch</i>	<i>14th Norfolk</i>	<i>2/4/2011</i>

HOUSE No. 177

By Ms. Wolf of Cambridge, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 177) of Alice K. Wolf and others relative to school exclusion data and school dropout reduction. Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Eleven

An Act to respond to school exclusion data and reduce school dropouts.

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

1 Chapter 71 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 37H ½ the
2 following section: -

3 Section 37H ¾. (1) Each superintendent of schools shall notify the commissioner of
4 education of all disciplinary exclusions of students from school, and shall report to the
5 commissioner the alternative education services provided to students. On or before September 1,
6 the commissioner shall file an annual report with the joint committee on education, arts and
7 humanities, and with the offices of the clerks for the house of representatives and the senate,
8 concerning the number of disciplinary exclusions in public schools, by grade level, race, gender,
9 special education status, socioeconomic status, and English language proficiency, the duration of
10 exclusions, the reasons for exclusions, the total number of school days in the school year
11 students were excluded from school, the alternative education options provided to students and
12 the number of students re-admitted under the provisions of this section. The department shall
13 use its existing data collection tools to obtain this expanded information from districts and shall

14 modify those tools as necessary to obtain the information. Each superintendent shall ensure that
15 the annual reporting of data on disciplinary exclusions is made on or before August 1 to the
16 commissioner. To ensure consistency with federal reporting requirements, annual reports from
17 the superintendents and the commissioner required by this subsection shall collect and report
18 publicly the disaggregated school discipline data at the state and district level for all students,
19 including those not identified as having a disability, by all categories currently required by 20
20 U.S.C. § 1418.

21 (2) The commissioner of education shall analyze the disciplinary exclusion data received
22 from the superintendents, and shall meet, at minimum, the federal requirements at 20 U.S.C.
23 §1412(a)(22). Pursuant to regulations to be promulgated by the department, for each school that
24 excludes a significant number of students for more than ten days cumulatively in a school year,
25 the commissioner shall investigate and, as appropriate, shall recommend models that incorporate
26 intermediary steps prior to the use of exclusion. The results of the analysis shall be publicly
27 reported at the school district level.