

HOUSE No. 2709

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Cheryl A. Coakley-Rivera

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 improve quality physical education.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Cheryl A. Coakley-Rivera</i>	<i>10th Hampden</i>	<i>1/21/2011</i>
<i>Benjamin Swan</i>	<i>11th Hampden</i>	<i>2/4/2011</i>

HOUSE No. 2709

By Ms. Coakley-Rivera of Springfield, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2709) of Cheryl A. Coakley-Rivera and Benjamin Swan for legislation to establish a physical education pilot program. Education.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 3430 OF 2009-2010.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Eleven

An Act to improve quality physical education.

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 the Massachusetts Physical Education Pilot
2 Program, in order to provide matching grants to not less than 6 public elementary, middle, or
3 high schools across the commonwealth for the purpose of determining the potential for statewide
4 expansion and enhancement of physical education in all public schools.

5 The department of elementary and secondary education shall oversee the administration
6 of this grant, provided, that in awarding pilot grants, participating elementary schools that
7 currently provide less than 60 minutes of physical education be required to provide not less than
8 120 minutes; provided further, that participating elementary schools that currently provide less
9 than 120 minutes of physical education be required to provide not less than 150 minutes;
10 provided further, that participating middle and high schools that currently provide less than 60

11 minutes of physical education be required to provide not less than 120 minutes; provided further,
12 that participating middle and high schools that currently provide more than 120 minutes will be
13 required to provide not less than 150 minutes, with the goal of reaching not less than 225 minutes
14 in 3 years; provided further, that pilot grantees shall not be penalized in any manner if a
15 reasonable attempt has been made to provide the program to each student.

16 SECTION 2. Each potential pilot school shall be required to provide a proposed plan to
17 the department of elementary and secondary education outlining how the school shall meet said
18 requirements over a 3 year period; provided further, that grant applications shall include the
19 delineation of any unmet funding needs including, but not limited to, additional program and
20 personnel costs deemed necessary in order to conduct requirements of the pilot program. To the
21 extent funds are available, the grant shall provide for such unmet funding needs.

22 SECTION 3. A Physical Education Advisory Commission shall be established to advise
23 the commissioner of elementary and secondary education on all eligible applicants, and shall
24 work in conjunction with the department of elementary and secondary education to review the
25 pilot program.

26 The commission shall consist of the commissioners of elementary and secondary
27 education and public health or each of their designees, 1 person to be appointed by the Senate
28 President, 1 person to be appointed by the Speaker of the House and 3 persons to be appointed
29 by the Governor, 1 of whom shall be a representative of the Massachusetts Physical Education,
30 Health, Recreation and Dance Association (MAPHERD), 1 of whom shall be a representative of
31 the American Heart Association, and 1 of whom shall be a representative of the American
32 Diabetes Association.

33 The department of elementary and secondary education shall administer grants for the
34 physical education pilot program and will work with the advisory committee in order to find
35 matching funds from outside sources to support schools financial requests.

36 The department, working in conjunction with the Physical Education Pilot Advisory
37 Commission shall evaluate the pilot program and report its preliminary findings by July 1, 2012
38 to the General Court, and shall present a final report to the General Court by July 31, 2014.