

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 2871**

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Gloria L. Fox***

*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 relative to investment in employment programs that save our youth.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Gloria L. Fox</i>	<i>7th Suffolk</i>	<i>1/21/2011</i>
<i>Sean Garballey</i>	<i>23rd Middlesex</i>	<i>1/22/2011</i>
<i>Frank I. Smizik</i>	<i>15th Norfolk</i>	<i>1/28/2011</i>
<i>Carlo Basile</i>	<i>1st Suffolk</i>	<i>2/4/2011</i>
<i>Marcos A. Devers</i>	<i>16th Essex</i>	<i>2/4/2011</i>
<i>Kevin G. Honan</i>	<i>17th Suffolk</i>	<i>2/4/2011</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/3/2011</i>
<i>Elizabeth A. Malia</i>	<i>11th Suffolk</i>	<i>2/3/2011</i>
<i>Tom Sannicandro</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/1/2011</i>
<i>Ellen Story</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>	<i>2/3/2011</i>
<i>Benjamin Swan</i>	<i>11th Hampden</i>	<i>2/4/2011</i>
<i>Josh Young, Director Legislative Affairs</i>	<i>Action for Boston Community Development, Inc. 178 Tremont Street Boston, MA 02111</i>	<i>1/21/2011</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 2871**

By Ms. Fox of Boston, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2871) of Gloria L. Fox and others relative to investment in programs to support youth employment. Labor and Workforce Development.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**In the Year Two Thousand Eleven**

An Act relative to investment in employment programs that save our youth.

*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. Chapter 23H of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after  
2 Section 11 the following:-

3 Section 12. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, it shall be the  
4 policy of the Commonwealth to invest in low-income, disadvantaged youth with high-impact  
5 programs that mitigate violence in inner-city neighborhoods and provide education and job skills  
6 in school that promote long-term economic success.

7 The Department of Workforce Development shall coordinate with Action for Boston  
8 Community Development, Inc. (ABCD) on a year-round, at-risk youth employment and career  
9 exploration program. The program focuses on providing low-income, disadvantaged youth with  
10 a jump start in building the skills, credentials and attitudes they will need to succeed in school  
11 and at work. It offers exposure to a variety of career paths; skills training; academic remediation

12 and support; case management; mentoring; links to ongoing education and employment  
13 opportunities, and monitoring.

14 1) Participants will be enrolled in one of a range of career exploration tracks—which  
15 provide real-world experience and training in industries as diverse as biotechnology, construction  
16 trades, hospitality, health services, computer technologies, financial services, early education and  
17 care.

18

19 Career tracks will provide meaningful, in-depth training as well as a chance to learn  
20 about job opportunities. For example, the Construction Pre-Apprenticeship, offered in  
21 conjunction with the Boston Building Trades Training Directors Association, provides up to 175  
22 hours of training in building trade skills, exploring all aspects of the construction industry.  
23 Career exploration incorporates hands-on training through individual and group activities, tools  
24 and equipment orientation, and field trips to worksites.

25

26 2) Participants receive individual and group mentoring from experienced professionals in  
27 the targeted industry areas.

28

29 3) The academic skills and credentials needed in each career field are used to provide a  
30 context for individual academic assessment and remediation. For students in high school,  
31 emphasis will be placed on MCAS tutoring as well as completing course requirements. Out-of-

32 school youth will be placed in a GED program or other educational alternatives, including  
33 diploma granting alternative education programs.

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35 4) All participants will receive support services through a case management model  
36 which offers assessment, development of an individual service plan, information/referral  
37 services, and ongoing counseling.