

**SENATE . . . . . No. 177**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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PRESENTED BY:

***Steven A. Baddour***

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*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 and coordinate teacher professional development in the Commonwealth..

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PETITION OF:

NAME:

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*Steven A. Baddour*

**SENATE . . . . . No. 177**

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By Mr. Baddour, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 177) of Steven A. Baddour for legislation to improve and coordinate teacher professional development in the Commonwealth. Education.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE SENATE, NO. 207 OF 2009-2010.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the Year Two Thousand Eleven**  
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An Act to improve and coordinate teacher professional development in the Commonwealth..

*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. Whereas, Qualified Teachers are the most important component in a  
2 quality education; and

3           Whereas, Continuing Professional Development has been demonstrated to be the most  
4 effective manner by which professionals improve and keep current in their fields of practice; and

5           Whereas, the manner, form, and quality of Teacher and School Leader Professional  
6 Development varies widely among the various public school districts across the Commonwealth;  
7 and

8           Whereas, in order to support the most effective forms of Teacher and School Leader  
9 Professional Development, the state must first inventory and perform standards-based

10 evaluations all forms of Teacher and School Leader Professional Development being offered in  
11 every district throughout the Commonwealth ; therefore

12 The General Court deems it to be essential that a strategy be developed expeditiously to  
13 inventory and evaluate all teacher skill and professional development and school leadership  
14 programs being offered throughout the Commonwealth, and that this act take immediate effect.

15 Section 1. The Department of Education is hereby authorized, subject to  
16 appropriation, to contract for a comprehensive review of professional development activities and  
17 evaluation procedures for public school educators throughout the Commonwealth.

18 Section 2. The review shall include an audit of all professional development programs  
19 funded and/or provided by federal, state, local, district, and private sources.

20 a) The review shall include all programs adopted, implemented, and filed with the  
21 commissioner of education in fulfillment of the requirements of section 38Q of Chapter 71;

22 b) The review shall also include all professional development programs offered by  
23 public institutions, which do not have to be registered with the Commissioner, under the  
24 requirements of DOE regulations 603 CMR 44.00 and section 38Q of Chapter 71.

25 Section 3. Based on the information gathered in the review process, the department shall  
26 work with its contractor and educational administrators and teachers to develop a plan for  
27 coordinated statewide professional development, including the promotion of replicable models  
28 that have demonstrated record of success in promoting student achievement and success as well  
29 as a plan for the elimination of duplicative or unsuccessful programs.

30           Section 4. The department shall also make recommendations for the maintenance of a  
31 registry at the department of education and on its department World Wide Web site of all such  
32 professional development services and providers, public and private, including a qualitative  
33 evaluation of each service and provider.

34           Section 5. Report and Recommendations. The Department shall file a report with the  
35 chairs of the Joint Committee on Education and the House and Senate Committees on Ways and  
36 Means not later than 8 months subsequent the required appropriation, and may make such  
37 interim reports as it deems appropriate. Said report shall include any legislative  
38 recommendations to improve and coordinate professional development efforts in the  
39 Commonwealth.

40           Section 6. This act shall take effect upon its passage.