

SENATE No. 216

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Thomas M. McGee

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:
<i>Thomas M. McGee</i>	<i>Third Essex</i>
<i>Sal N. DiDomenico</i>	<i>Middlesex and Suffolk</i>
<i>Michael F. Rush</i>	<i>Norfolk and Suffolk</i>
<i>William N. Brownsberger</i>	
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	
<i>Robert F. Fennell</i>	<i>10th Essex</i>
<i>John Hart, Jr.</i>	
<i>Jonathan Hecht</i>	<i>29th Middlesex</i>
<i>Kevin G. Honan</i>	<i>17th Suffolk</i>
<i>Patricia D. Jehlen</i>	
<i>Stephen Kulik</i>	<i>1st Franklin</i>
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>
<i>Kathi-Anne Reinstein</i>	<i>16th Suffolk</i>
<i>Carl M. Sciortino, Jr.</i>	<i>34th Middlesex</i>
<i>Karen E. Spilka</i>	
<i>Ellen Story</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>

SENATE No. 216

By Mr. McGee, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 216) of Thomas M. McGee, Sal N. DiDomenico, Michael F. Rush, William N. Brownsberger and other members of the General Court for legislation to improve quality physical education. Education.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 248 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. Chapter 71 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out section
2 3, as so appearing, and inserting in place t hereof the following section:-

3 Physical education shall be taught as a required subject in all grades for all students in the
4 public schools, by licensed teachers, certified in physical education. The purpose of physical
5 education shall be to increase the physical competence, health-related fitness and enjoyment of
6 physical activity so as to benefit children physically, cognitively, emotionally, and socially. In
7 addition, there shall be no substitution or waivers of instruction or activities for Physical
8 Education; and physical education coursework standards shall be based on the National
9 Association for Sport & Physical Education (NASPE) national standards for Physical Education
10 including program and student assessment.

11 SECTION 2. The Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education, in conjunction
12 with the Commissioner of Public Health, shall conduct an evaluation of current physical
13 education standards, practices and the instruction provided to students in grades kindergarten
14 through twelve and report their findings for each individual school. The report shall include, but
15 not be limited to, (a) the current school physical education offerings with specifics in regards to
16 the duration of each individual session and the number of days per week that the class meets per
17 year and (b) report on how each individual school is providing a curriculum based quality
18 physical education to achieve physical fitness, (c) the amount of recess student participate in
19 each week, including the time and space allotted to recess in each school.

20 The Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education shall convey the findings for
21 each individual school and report it to the to the Governor of the Commonwealth, the Senate
22 President, the Speaker of the House, Chairpersons of the Joint Education Committee, and
23 Chairpersons of the Joint Public Health Committee. The Commissioner of Elementary and
24 Secondary Education shall make appropriate recommendations based on the findings in
25 conjunction with the Commission on School Nutrition and Childhood Obesity established under
26 Chapter 197 of the Acts of 2010.

27 SECTION 3. Within the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education a
28 designated full time equivalent staff person shall be determined to serve as a physical education
29 coordinator for the state. This such person shall, but not be limited to, gathering information on
30 best practices of quality physical education and physical activity programs throughout the
31 Commonwealth, developing and providing a comprehensive framework and technical assistance
32 to schools in implementing quality physical education programs, identifying resources to

- 33 implement quality physical education programs and evaluating effectiveness of physical
- 34 education programs