

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 491**

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Frank I. Smizik***

*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 charter schools.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Frank I. Smizik</i>	<i>15th Norfolk</i>	<i>1/16/2013</i>
<i>James J. O'Day</i>	<i>14th Worcester</i>	
<i>Cleon H. Turner</i>	<i>1st Barnstable</i>	
<i>Benjamin Swan</i>	<i>11th Hampden</i>	
<i>Ann-Margaret Ferrante</i>	<i>5th Essex</i>	
<i>Elizabeth A. Malia</i>	<i>11th Suffolk</i>	
<i>Patricia D. Jehlen</i>	<i>Second Middlesex</i>	
<i>Carl M. Sciortino, Jr.</i>	<i>34th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Aaron Vega</i>	<i>5th Hampden</i>	
<i>Ruth B. Balsler</i>	<i>12th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Michael D. Brady</i>	<i>9th Plymouth</i>	
<i>John J. Lawn, Jr.</i>	<i>10th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Cynthia S. Creem</i>	<i>First Middlesex and Norfolk</i>	
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Marjorie C. Decker</i>	<i>25th Middlesex</i>	

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 491**

By Mr. Smizik of Brookline, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 491) of Frank I. Smizik and others relative to charter schools. Education.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 1067 OF 2011-2012.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen**

An Act relative to charter schools.

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

1 Section1- Section 89 of Chapter 71 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding at  
2 the end thereof the following:

3 Notwithstanding the foregoing, only commonwealth charter school applications that have  
4 received the approval of the local or regional school committee(s), or voters of school district(s)  
5 or regional school district(s) at town meetings or at general elections, shall be funded pursuant to  
6 the provisions of this section. Approval of an application by the board without the approval of  
7 either the school committee or the voters of the district(s) pursuant to subsection (nn) of this  
8 section shall be funded by the board, exclusive of Chapter 70 or other local funds.

9 Section 2- Section 89 of Chapter 71 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding at  
10 the end thereof the following:

11 Notwithstanding any provision of this section to the contrary, commonwealth charter  
12 school applications may be approved by any of the following actions: by the approval of the  
13 application by the school committee for each school district from which the charter school is  
14 expected to enroll students, by the approval of the voters at town meetings of each town from  
15 which the charter school is expected to enroll students, or in a city by the approval of the city  
16 council, by whatever title it may be known, and the Mayor, or in the alternative by vote at a  
17 general biennial state election by municipalities from which the charter school is expected to

18 enroll students, or by the approval of the board. Applications that have received the aforesaid  
19 local approval for a commonwealth charter school shall comply with the provisions for such  
20 submission pursuant to the applicable provisions of this section.

21           Section 3- This act shall apply only to commonwealth charter school applications  
22 submitted after the date upon which the act becomes effective.