

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 307****The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***F. Jay Barrows***

*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 directing the Department of Education to include a course in civics as a high school graduation requirement.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>F. Jay Barrows</i>	<i>1st Bristol</i>	<i>1/13/2015</i>
<i>David T. Vieira</i>	<i>3rd Barnstable</i>	<i>1/14/2015</i>
<i>Kimberly N. Ferguson</i>	<i>1st Worcester</i>	<i>1/14/2015</i>
<i>Elizabeth A. Poirier</i>	<i>14th Bristol</i>	<i>1/26/2015</i>
<i>Michael O. Moore</i>	<i>Second Worcester</i>	<i>8/21/2019</i>
<i>Michael F. Rush</i>	<i>Norfolk and Suffolk</i>	<i>8/21/2019</i>
<i>Susan Williams Gifford</i>	<i>2nd Plymouth</i>	<i>8/21/2019</i>
<i>Ellen Story</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>	<i>8/21/2019</i>
<i>Ruth B. Balser</i>	<i>12th Middlesex</i>	<i>8/21/2019</i>
<i>Leonard Mirra</i>	<i>2nd Essex</i>	<i>8/21/2019</i>
<i>Jonathan D. Zlotnik</i>	<i>2nd Worcester</i>	<i>8/21/2019</i>
<i>Gloria L. Fox</i>	<i>7th Suffolk</i>	<i>8/21/2019</i>
<i>Stephen L. DiNatale</i>	<i>3rd Worcester</i>	<i>8/21/2019</i>
<i>Bruce E. Tarr</i>	<i>First Essex and Middlesex</i>	<i>8/21/2019</i>
<i>Jeffrey N. Roy</i>	<i>10th Norfolk</i>	<i>8/21/2019</i>
<i>Leah Cole</i>	<i>12th Essex</i>	<i>8/21/2019</i>
<i>Walter F. Timilty</i>	<i>7th Norfolk</i>	<i>8/21/2019</i>

*Joseph D. McKenna*

*18th Worcester*

*8/21/2019*

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 307

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By Mr. Barrows of Mansfield, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 307) of F. Jay Barrows and others for legislation to direct the Department of Education to include a course in civics as a high school graduation requirement. Education.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court  
(2015-2016)  
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An Act directing the Department of Education to include a course in civics as a high school graduation requirement.

*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: Section 2 of Chapter 71 of the General Laws is amended, in line 7, by  
2     inserting after “ ... for the duties of citizenship.” The following:

3           The successful completion of a course in civics shall be mandated as a requirement for all  
4     students in order to receive their high school diploma. The department of education shall set  
5     guidelines for all school districts relative to the implementation of the civics course. At  
6     minimum, the course must educate students in the following criteria: Composition of local, state,  
7     and federal government,

8           Function of the branches of local, state, and federal government, Responsibilities and  
9     duties as an American citizen, Opportunities for voter participation, Exposure to current events  
10    and identification of government officials

11           SECTION 2: The department shall take all reasonable efforts to accomplish the  
12 establishment of necessary regulations by May 1, 2015, in order that the provisions of this act  
13 may be implemented in the following school year.