SENATE DOCKET, NO. 51 FILED ON: 1/13/2015

SENATE . . . . . No. 254

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Cynthia S. Creem

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 authorizing a study of starting times and schedules.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
Cynthia S. Creem	*First Middlesex and Norfolk*	
William N. Brownsberger	*Second Suffolk and Middlesex*	
Carolyn C. Dykema	*8th Middlesex*	
James B. Eldridge	*Middlesex and Worcester*	
Jason M. Lewis	*Fifth Middlesex*	
Paul Brodeur	*32nd Middlesex*	
Paul McMurtry	*11th Norfolk*	
Ruth B. Balser	*12th Middlesex*	
Michael S. Day	*31st Middlesex*	
Sean Garballey	*23rd Middlesex*	
Carmine L. Gentile	*13th Middlesex*	
Tom Sannicandro	*7th Middlesex*	
Timothy R. Madden	*Barnstable, Dukes and Nantucket*	
Kathleen O'Connor Ives	*First Essex*	*3/24/2016*

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By Ms. Creem, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 254) of Cynthia S. Creem, William N. Brownsberger, Carolyn C. Dykema, James B. Eldridge and other members of the General Court for legislation to authorize a study of school day starting times and schedules. Education.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. *215* OF 2013-2014.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court
(2015-2016)

An Act authorizing a study of starting times and schedules.

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

SECTION 1. There shall be an educational task force to review the effect of school day start times for middle school and secondary school students. The task force shall consist of 9 members: the house and senate chairs of the joint committee on education, or their designees, who shall serve as co-chairs of the task force; the secretary of education, or a designee; the commissioner of elementary and secondary education, or a designee; the executive director of the Massachusetts Association of School Committees, or a designee, the executive director of the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents, or a designee; the executive director of the Massachusetts Association of Secondary School Principals, or a designee; the executive director of StartSchoolLater.net, or a designee; and a superintendent from a district which has implemented later school day starting times.

The task force shall: (i) conduct a comprehensive study, including a review of the scientific findings relative to sleep needs of adolescents, relative to the effect which middle school and secondary school start times have on the health and academic performance of students; (ii) determine the number of districts in the Commonwealth which have implemented later school day starting times for middle school and secondary schools and examine the academic performance of students, including performance on statewide tests; and (iii) identify resources and opportunities to assist districts in implementing later school day start times for middle school and secondary schools.

The task force shall file a report containing its findings and recommendations, including legislation necessary to carry out its recommendations, with the clerks of the house and senate by June 30, 2016.