

SENATE No. 226

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Cynthia Stone 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 supporting the local determination of educational competency and multiple forms of academic assessment.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Cynthia Stone Creem

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

First Middlesex and Norfolk

SENATE No. 226

By Ms. Creem, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 226) of Cynthia S. Creem for legislation to support the local determination of educational competency and multiple forms of academic assessment. Education.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 257 OF 2015-2016.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
(2017-2018)**

An Act supporting the local determination of educational competency and multiple forms of academic assessment.

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 1D of chapter 69 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2014
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking the text contained in lines 56 through 78 in its
3 entirety, and inserting in place thereof the following:-

4 (i) The competency determination shall be based on the academic standards and
5 curriculum frameworks for tenth graders in the areas of mathematics and English, and shall
6 represent a determination that a particular student has demonstrated proficiency in a common
7 core of skills, competencies and knowledge in these areas, as measured by a variety of
8 assessment instruments. Said assessment instruments shall be determined by the local public
9 school district after review and comment by the department. However, under no circumstances

10 may the results of a single means of assessment or test be used as a condition of high school
11 graduation.

12 SECTION 2. Section 1I of said chapter 69 is hereby amended by striking, in lines 22 and
13 23, the following words:- "As much as is practicable, especially"; and said section is further
14 amended by adding in line 26 after the words "student performance." the following new
15 sentence:- "Students whose performance may be difficult to assess shall include, but not be
16 limited to, students with special needs, students enrolled in a vocational education program and
17 students with limited English proficiency."