

**SENATE . . . . . No. 233**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Sal N. DiDomenico***

*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 literacy skills.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Sal N. DiDomenico</i>	<i>Middlesex and Suffolk</i>	
<i>Joseph W. McGonagle, Jr.</i>	<i>28th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/30/2017</i>
<i>Bruce E. Tarr</i>	<i>First Essex and Middlesex</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>

**SENATE . . . . . No. 233**

By Mr. DiDomenico, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 233) of Sal N. DiDomenico, Joseph W. McGonagle, Jr. and Bruce E. Tarr for legislation to improve literacy skills. Education.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE SENATE, NO. 2330 OF 2015-2016.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

An Act to improve literacy skills.

*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 15 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2014 Official Edition,  
2 is hereby amended by inserting after Section 52, the following section:-

3 Section 52A. The Board shall establish, subject to appropriation, an elementary school  
4 literacy and school improvement reimbursement grant program. Reimbursements shall be given  
5 to districts on the basis of improved literacy outcomes for both general education and special  
6 education populations. The amount of reimbursement shall be based on a sliding scale to be  
7 determined by the department, based on the district’s percentage of students categorized as  
8 economically disadvantaged. Reimbursements shall be awarded for the following:

9           (a)     Intensive school wide literacy coaching and professional development, which may  
10 include coaching for broader educational goals. Reimbursements under this category may not  
11 continue for a period exceeding four years.

12           (b)     K-3 literacy interventions for the most at-risk students. Such grants shall be  
13 awarded for intensive literacy intervention training, coaching, and professional development.

14           Reimbursements awarded pursuant to subsections (a) and (b) may be for efforts in  
15 conjunction with or separate from each other. Program participants shall be required to report  
16 their results to the department, which shall publish the results online.

17           Instructional costs eligible for reimbursement under the program shall be reported by a  
18 school or school district to the department in a manner prescribed by the commissioner. The  
19 department shall review the report and approve those per pupil instructional costs that are  
20 eligible for reimbursement pursuant to the program within 30 days of submission. Based upon  
21 the approved costs, the department shall calculate the reimbursement due a municipality.