

**SENATE . . . . . No. 248**

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Eileen M. Donoghue***

*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 promoting civics education.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Eileen M. Donoghue</i>	<i>First Middlesex</i>	
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/31/2017</i>
<i>Rady Mom</i>	<i>18th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/1/2017</i>
<i>Mary S. Keefe</i>	<i>15th Worcester</i>	<i>2/1/2017</i>
<i>Jeffrey N. Roy</i>	<i>10th Norfolk</i>	<i>2/2/2017</i>
<i>Barbara A. L'Italien</i>	<i>Second Essex and Middlesex</i>	<i>2/2/2017</i>
<i>Sheila C. Harrington</i>	<i>1st Middlesex</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Eric P. Lesser</i>	<i>First Hampden and Hampshire</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Sarah K. Peake</i>	<i>4th Barnstable</i>	<i>2/14/2017</i>

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By Ms. Donoghue, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 248) of Eileen M. Donoghue, Kay Khan, Rady Mom, Mary S. Keefe and other members of the General Court for legislation to promote civics education. Education.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

An Act promoting civics education.

*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, as appearing in the 2014  
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the first paragraph the following  
3 paragraph:-

4 The department of elementary and secondary education shall develop one or more civic  
5 education model curriculum units to align with the history and social science curriculum  
6 framework and shall include, but not be limited to, the following topics: (i) the function and  
7 composition of the branches of local, state and federal government; (ii) the roles and  
8 responsibilities of a citizen in a democracy; (iii) current events and evaluating news sources; and  
9 (iv) community-based action and service learning projects. The model curriculum unit or units  
10 shall include an experiential or practical unit, which may be offered as an extra-curricular or out-  
11 of-school activity. The model curriculum unit or units shall be developed not later than July 1,  
12 2018. The department shall develop an evaluation process to assess the curriculum, pedagogy

13 and teaching materials during the piloting of a course, unit, or program established through a  
14 civic education model curriculum unit. All public school districts shall implement the civic  
15 education model curriculum unit or units by no later than the 2019-2020 academic year.