SENATE DOCKET, NO. 1119 FILED ON: 1/19/2017

SENATE . . . . . No. 291

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

***Barbara A. L'Italien*, (BY REQUEST)**

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 prohibit the use of Native American mascots by public schools in the Commonwealth.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
Linda Thomas	*290 Pleasant Street Tewksbury, MA 01876*	
Beth Cowett	*3204 Archstone Avenue Tewksbury, MA 01876*	
John W. Scibak	*2nd Hampshire*	*2/2/2017*
Elizabeth A. Malia	*11th Suffolk*	*2/3/2017*
José F. Tosado	*9th Hampden*	*2/3/2017*
William N. Brownsberger	*Second Suffolk and Middlesex*	*2/6/2017*
Michelle M. DuBois	*10th Plymouth*	*2/10/2017*
Jack Lewis	*7th Middlesex*	*3/20/2017*
Ruth B. Balser	*12th Middlesex*	*4/11/2017*

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By Ms. L'Italien (by request), a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 291) of Linda Thomas, Beth Cowett, John W. Scibak, Elizabeth A. Malia and others for legislation to prohibit the use of Native American mascots by public schools in the Commonwealth. Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act to prohibit the use of Native American mascots by public schools in the Commonwealth.

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. Chapter 71 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 97 the following new section:-

Section 98. Prohibition on the use of Native American mascots to by public schools in the Commonwealth.

(a) As used in this section, “Native American mascot” means

a. A name, symbol, or image that depicts or refers to an American Indian tribe, individual, custom, or tradition that is used by a public school as a mascot, nickname, logo, letterhead, or team name

b. The use of the team name “Redskins, “Savages,” “Indians,” “Indianettes,” “Chiefs,” “Chieftains,” “Braves,” or “Redmen.”

(b) As used in this section, “public school” means a school or program operated by a school district, and education service district, or a public charter school.

(c) The use of any Native American mascot by a public school in the Commonwealth is prohibited.