

SENATE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Bruce E. Tarr

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 relative to Essex Sports Center public accountability.

PETITION OF:

| NAME: | DISTRICT/ADDRESS: | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|
| <i>Bruce E. Tarr</i> | <i>First Essex and Middlesex</i> | |
| <i>Joan B. Lovely</i> | <i>Second Essex</i> | |
| <i>Brendan P. Crighton</i> | <i>Third Essex</i> | <i>7/24/2018</i> |
| <i>Ann-Margaret Ferrante</i> | <i>5th Essex</i> | <i>7/24/2018</i> |

SENATE No.

By Mr. Tarr, a petition (accompanied by bill) (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Bruce E. Tarr and Joan B. Lovely for legislation relative to Essex Sports Center public accountability. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to Essex Sports Center public accountability.

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. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the Essex
2 Sports Center, LLC, as the lessee under section 22 of chapter 237 of the acts of 2014, shall make
3 available and the inspector general shall examine all financial documents necessary to complete
4 an audit and analysis of the operations of the facility with regard to factors which shall include,
5 but not be limited to, Essex Sports Center’s: (i) financial stability; (ii) performance of its lease
6 obligations; (iii) compliance with local tax payment obligations and required compensation to the
7 school district; (iv) ability to continue to meet all of its obligations; and (v) any other relevant
8 factors that may impact the school, the host community, those served by the facility, the
9 commonwealth and other stakeholders. The inspector general shall have the authority to
10 complete further periodic audits to ensure the Essex Sports Center’s continued fiscal solvency,
11 and shall refer any instances of fraud or other criminal activity or if in the inspector general’s
12 determination a referral is warranted to protect the interest of the taxpayers to the attorney
13 general. The inspector general shall complete its audit not later than December 31, 2018.