

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 543**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Harold P. Naughton, Jr. and James M. Kelcourse***

*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 academic acceleration of K-12 students.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Harold P. Naughton, Jr.</i>	<i>12th Worcester</i>	<i>1/17/2019</i>
<i>James M. Kelcourse</i>	<i>1st Essex</i>	<i>1/18/2019</i>
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>	<i>1/30/2019</i>
<i>Jack Patrick Lewis</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/30/2019</i>
<i>Gerard J. Cassidy</i>	<i>9th Plymouth</i>	<i>1/30/2019</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Susannah M. Whipps</i>	<i>2nd Franklin</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Paul K. Frost</i>	<i>7th Worcester</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Diana DiZoglio</i>	<i>First Essex</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Mindy Domb</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Harriette L. Chandler</i>	<i>First Worcester</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>

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By Messrs. Naughton of Clinton and Kelcourse of Amesbury, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 543) of Harold P. Naughton, Jr., James M. Kelcourse and others relative to academic acceleration of students in kindergarten through grade twelve. Education.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court  
(2019-2020)**  
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An Act relative to academic acceleration of K-12 students.

*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 1B of chapter 69 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2016  
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the twenty fifth paragraph, in lines 151-  
3 167, the following paragraph:-

4           “The board of elementary and secondary education shall establish regulations regarding  
5 the use of whole-grade and content-specific academic acceleration in the public schools of the  
6 Commonwealth. Said regulations will authorize and provide a framework for school districts to  
7 provide access to appropriate curriculum and instruction for students who demonstrate readiness  
8 for academic content, skills or understanding at a level beyond the curriculum ordinarily taught  
9 to students of a certain age. In developing said regulations, the department shall consider, at a  
10 minimum, the following acceleration strategies:

11           (a)    Single subject acceleration;

12           (b)    Combined classes (multi-age);

- 13 (c) Online and correspondence courses;
- 14 (d) Concurrent or dual enrollment;
- 15 (e) Curriculum compacting;
- 16 (f) Credit by examination or prior experience;
- 17 (g) Competency/mastery based learning;
- 18 (h) Whole-grade acceleration (one or more);
- 19 (i) Self-paced instruction;
- 20 (j) Mentoring;
- 21 (k) Early graduation;

22 Said regulations shall require the use of a tool, such as the Iowa Acceleration Scale,  
23 designed to take personal bias out of the decision-making process when considering a child for  
24 acceleration, and to ensure that acceleration decisions are systematic, thoughtful, well-reasoned,  
25 and defensible.”