

HOUSE No. 702

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Alan Silvia

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 providing pre-k education for 4 year-old children in gateway communities.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Alan Silvia</i>	<i>7th Bristol</i>	<i>1/21/2021</i>
<i>Carole A. Fiola</i>	<i>6th Bristol</i>	<i>2/19/2021</i>
<i>Christopher Hendricks</i>	<i>11th Bristol</i>	<i>2/19/2021</i>
<i>Paul A. Schmid, III</i>	<i>8th Bristol</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Tricia Farley-Bouvier</i>	<i>3rd Berkshire</i>	<i>2/27/2021</i>

HOUSE No. 702

By Mr. Silvia of Fall River, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 702) of Alan Silvia and others relative to universal pre-kindergarten education in gateway municipalities. Education.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 3761 OF 2019-2020.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court
(2021-2022)**

An Act providing pre-k education for 4 year-old children in gateway communities.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Chapter 13 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 13 the
2 following section:-

3 Section 13A. (a) The board and department shall develop a program for universal pre-
4 kindergarten education in gateway municipalities, as defined in section 3A of chapter 23A,
5 which shall be available to all children ages 4 and older (and may be made available to children
6 ages 3 and older) who reside in a gateway municipality and would be eligible for free or reduced
7 price lunch if the child attended a public school.

8 (b) In developing the program, the board and department shall: (i) establish a
9 standardized pre-kindergarten curriculum for all program participants; (ii) partner with current
10 providers of pre-kindergarten services in gateway communities; and (iii) focus on the specific

11 cognitive, linguistic, social, emotional, cultural and physical needs of the children in each
12 gateway municipality.

13 (c) Each child who qualifies for the universal pre-kindergarten program established by
14 this section shall be counted as a student of the school district in which the child attends the pre-
15 kindergarten program, and shall be included as such a student for the purposes of calculating that
16 district's funding pursuant to chapter 70.

17 (d) The board shall adopt rules and regulations to implement the requirements of this
18 section.