

SENATE No. 2827

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

SENATE, April 14, 2022.

The committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight, to whom was referred the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2073) of John F. Keenan, Thomas Emswiler, Christine P. Barber, Maria Duaine Robinson and other members of the General Court for legislation relative to Massachusetts time zones, reports the accompanying bill (Senate, No. 2827).

For the committee,
Marc R. Pacheco

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An Act relative to Massachusetts time zones.

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. Chapter 4 of the General Laws is hereby further amended by striking out
2 section 10, as appearing in the 2018 Official Edition, and inserting in place thereof the following
3 section:-

4 Section 10. The standard time within the state shall change to permanent daylight savings
5 time pursuant to the exemption provisions of the federal Uniform Time Act of 1966, 15 U.S.C.
6 section 260(a). And in all laws, statutes, orders, decrees, rules and regulations relating to the time
7 of performance of any act by any officer or department of the commonwealth, or of any county,
8 city, town or district thereof, or relating to the time in which any rights shall accrue or determine,
9 or within which any act shall or shall not be performed by any person subject to the jurisdiction
10 of the commonwealth, and in all the public schools and in all institutions of the commonwealth,
11 or of any county, city, town or district thereof, and in all contracts or choses in action made or to
12 be performed in the commonwealth.

13 SECTION 2. Within 90 days of the effective date of this act, the Department of
14 Elementary and Secondary Education shall convene an educational task force to review the
15 effect of school day start times for elementary school, middle school and secondary school
16 students. The task force shall: (i) conduct a comprehensive study including, but not limited to,
17 the impact of school start times on student academic performance, school scheduling issues,
18 scientific and academic findings relative to the sleep needs of adolescents; (ii) schedule and hold
19 public hearings throughout the Commonwealth to ensure public input and comment; and (iii)
20 make reasonable attempts at obtaining comments and suggestions from common stakeholders,
21 that may include teachers, students, parents of students, and education policy makers. The task
22 force shall file a report containing its findings and recommendations, including legislation
23 necessary to carry out its recommendations, with the Joint Committee on Education not later
24 than 12 months following the first meeting of the task force.

25 SECTION 3. Within 120 days of the effective date of this act, the governor of
26 Massachusetts shall petition the United States Department of Transportation provided for in the
27 federal Uniform Time Act of 1966, 15 U.S.C. sections 260 to 267.