

SENATE No. 332

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Ryan C. Fattman

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 carbon monoxide detectors in schools.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Ryan C. Fattman</i>	<i>Worcester and Norfolk</i>	
<i>Brian W. Murray</i>	<i>10th Worcester</i>	<i>2/24/2021</i>

SENATE No. 332

By Mr. Fattman, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 332) of Ryan C. Fattman and Brian W. Murray for legislation relative to carbon monoxide detectors in schools. Education.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 283 OF 2019-2020.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to carbon monoxide detectors in schools.

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 29 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2018 Official Edition,
2 is hereby amended by adding the following section:-

3 Section 72. (a) There shall be established and set upon the books of the commonwealth a
4 separate fund to be known as the School Carbon Monoxide Safety Trust Fund, to be expanded
5 without prior appropriation, by the department of elementary and secondary education. The fund
6 shall be credited any revenue from appropriations or other monies authorized by the general
7 court and specifically designated to be credited to the fund and any gifts, grants, private
8 contributions, investment income earned on the assets of the fund and all other sources. Money
9 remaining in the fund at the end of a fiscal year shall not revert to the General Fund. The
10 commissioner of elementary and secondary education or a designee, in consultation with the

department of fire safety, shall administer the fund and make expenditures from the fund in the form of grants to public school districts for the installation of carbon monoxide detection systems as required under subsection (a½) of section 26F½ of chapter 148 and regulations promulgated by the board of fire prevention.

(b) Prior to receiving any monies from the fund, a school district shall submit a carbon monoxide detection system installation plan to the department of elementary and secondary education and the department of fire safety. The plan shall include, but not be limited to: (i) the method of installation of the carbon monoxide detection system for each school building in the district; (ii) the status of carbon monoxide detection systems previously installed in school buildings; and (iii) the cost, including labor costs, of installing carbon monoxide detection systems. The department of elementary and secondary education, in conjunction with the department of fire safety, shall: (A) review the plan and may request additional or supporting information within 90 days of receipt of the plan; and (B) provide each school district 60 days to submit any additional or supporting information requested. A plan shall be approved or rejected not later than 180 days after receipt of the plan.

(c) Not later than April 1 of each year, the department of elementary and secondary education, in conjunction with the department of fire safety, shall submit a report to the clerks of the house of representatives and the senate and the chairs of the house and senate committees on ways and means regarding the status of the fund including, but not limited to: (i) the amount of money in the fund; and (ii) a list of school districts that were awarded grants and the amount of the grants awarded.

SECTION 2. Section 26F½ of said chapter 148, as so appearing, is hereby amended by inserting after subsection (a) the following subsection:-

(a½) Each school building that provides public or private education for children in kindergarten through grade 12 that: (1) contains fossil-fuel burning equipment including, but not limited to, a furnace, boiler, water heater, fireplace or any other apparatus, appliance or device that burns fossil fuel; or (2) incorporates enclosed parking within its structure shall install carbon monoxide alarms under the regulations of the board of fire prevention.

SECTION 3. The state board of building regulations and standards shall adopt as a minimum standard the 2015 International Building Code requirement to install carbon monoxide detection systems in all new or substantially rehabilitated school buildings that provide education for children in kindergarten through grade 12.

SECTION 4. Notwithstanding subsection (a½) of section 26F½ of chapter 148 of the General Laws, the board of fire prevention shall allow the temporary use of battery-operated carbon monoxide alarms.

SECTION 5. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, not later than January 1, 2023 and without further appropriation, the state comptroller shall transfer \$7,500,000 from the General Fund to the School Carbon Monoxide Safety Trust Fund established in section 27 of chapter 29 of the General Laws.

SECTION 6. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, not later than January 1, 2023 the department of elementary and secondary education, in consultation with the department of fire safety and the Massachusetts School Building Authority, shall develop best practices for the placement and installation of carbon monoxide detection systems in public

54 school buildings as required by section 2 of this act; provided, however, that the best practices
55 shall prioritize student and staff safety as well as cost economy.

56 SECTION 7. Section 4 is hereby repealed.

57 SECTION 8. Section 7 shall take effect on January 1, 2027.

58 SECTION 9. Unless otherwise provided, this act shall take effect on January 1, 2022.