

SENATE No. 364

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Jason M. Lewis

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 to establish a special commission on innovative technology-enabled teaching and learning.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>	
<i>Adam G. Hinds</i>	<i>Berkshire, Hampshire, Franklin and Hampden</i>	<i>4/22/2021</i>

SENATE No. 364

By Mr. Lewis, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 364) of Jason M. Lewis for legislation to establish a special commission on innovative technology-enabled teaching and learning. Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act to establish a special commission on innovative technology-enabled teaching and learning.

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. There shall be a special commission established pursuant to section 2A of
2 chapter 4 of the General Laws to study high-quality technology-enabled teaching and learning
3 practices. In conducting its study, the special commission shall evaluate educator preparedness
4 related to technology-enabled instruction, including, but not limited to curriculum, student
5 engagement, and innovative practices aimed to ensure equitable outcomes for students and
6 families in the Commonwealth; and make recommendations to address inequities in high quality
7 technology-enabled teaching and learning practices and student outcomes.

8 The commission shall consist of the secretary of education, or a designee; the
9 commissioner of elementary and secondary education, or a designee; 2 members to be appointed
10 by the governor who shall have experience in integrative professional learning technology; 3
11 members of the senate of which the senate president shall appoint one to serve as co-chair, 1 of
12 whom shall be the senate chair of the joint committee on education, 1 of whom shall be the

13 senate chair of the labor and workforce development and 1 of whom shall be a member of the
14 minority part to be appointed by the senate minority party leader; 3 members of the house of
15 representatives of which the speaker of the house shall appoint 1 to serve as co-chair, 1 of whom
16 shall be the house chair of the joint committee on education, 1 of whom shall be the house chair
17 of the joint committee on labor and workforce development and 1 of whom shall be a member of
18 the minority party who shall be appointed by the house minority leader; and 1 member to be
19 appointed by each of the following organizations: LearnLaunch, Inc., the Deeper Learning
20 Dozen, the Massachusetts Teachers Association, the American Federation of Teachers of
21 Massachusetts, the Boston Teachers Union, Massachusetts Association of Regional Schools,
22 Massachusetts Rural Policy Advisory Commission, Latinos for Education, Massachusetts
23 Educational Technology Administrators Association, Massachusetts Parent Teacher
24 Organization, the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents, Inc., the Massachusetts
25 Technology Leadership Council, the Clayton Christensen Institute, and the Massachusetts
26 Association of School Committees, Inc.

27 It shall not constitute a violation of chapter 268A for a person employed by a school
28 district to serve on the commission or to participate in commission deliberations that may have a
29 financial impact on the district employing that person or on the rate at which that person may be
30 compensated. The commission may establish procedures to ensure that no such person
31 participates in commission deliberations that may directly affect the school districts employing
32 those persons or that may directly affect the rate at which those persons are compensated.

33 Prior to issuing its recommendations, the special commission shall conduct not fewer
34 than 6 public meetings across regions of the commonwealth and incorporate feedback from
35 students, families, and relevant stakeholders.

36 The commission shall study and report on: (i) the status of technology-related teaching
37 and learning prior to March 2020, including an assessment of need and quality; (ii) the transition
38 schools have made since March 2020 to provide technology-enabled teaching and learning; (iii)
39 the impact of said transition on educators in the commonwealth (iv) the outcomes of
40 technology-enabled teaching and learning on students and families throughout the
41 commonwealth; (v) whether said student outcomes were equitable across student subgroups,
42 demographics, and geographic locations; (vi) the role of the external stakeholders in facilitating
43 the transition to technology-enabled teaching and learning; (viii) best practices pertaining to
44 technology-enabled teaching and learning; and (ix) any other matters related to technology-
45 enabled teaching and learning as determined by the co-chairs.

46 The commission shall submit a report containing its findings and recommendations,
47 including drafts of proposed legislation to carry out its recommendations, by filing the same with
48 the clerks of the senate and house of representatives, the chairs of the joint committee on
49 education, the chairs of the joint committee on ways and means, and the department of
50 elementary and secondary education not later than December 31, 2022.