

# SENATE . . . . . No. 394

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

*Walter F. Timilty*

*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 resolve:

Resolve establishing a joint task force to study the utilization of Department of Conservation and Recreation sites for educational programming for safe outdoor learning.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Walter F. Timilty</i>	<i>Norfolk, Bristol and Plymouth</i>	
<i>Steven S. Howitt</i>	<i>4th Bristol</i>	<i>3/4/2021</i>

# SENATE . . . . . No. 394

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By Mr. Timilty, a petition (accompanied by resolve, Senate, No. 394) of Walter F. Timilty and Steven S. Howitt for legislation to establish a joint task force to study the utilization of Department of Conservation and Recreation sites for educational programming for safe outdoor learning. Education.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court  
(2021-2022)  
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Resolve establishing a joint task force to study the utilization of Department of Conservation and Recreation sites for educational programming for safe outdoor learning.

1            **Resolved**, That the department of elementary and secondary education, in collaboration  
2            with the department of conservation and recreation, shall convene a task force to review the  
3            potential use of department of conservation and recreation sites for educational programming to  
4            allow for safe outdoor learning by elementary and secondary students in the Commonwealth.

5            The task force shall consist of: the commissioner of elementary and secondary education  
6            or a designee who shall serve as chair; the secretary of education or a designee; the  
7            commissioner of department of conservation and recreation or a designee; the secretary of  
8            energy and environmental affairs or a designee; an employee of the department of elementary  
9            and secondary education who has expertise in accessibility for individuals with intellectual or  
10          developmental disabilities; a representative of the Massachusetts Association of School  
11          Superintendents, Inc.; a representative of the Massachusetts Association of School Committees;  
12          a current actively working elementary or secondary teacher appointed by the American  
13          Federation of Teachers Massachusetts; a current actively working elementary or secondary

teacher appointed by the Massachusetts Teachers Association; and a representative of the Massachusetts Association of Approved Private Schools.

The task force shall: (i) conduct a comprehensive study of how to utilize existing department of conservation and recreation sites to develop a curriculum for students of the Commonwealth, including a review of existing department of elementary and secondary recommended curriculum related to outdoor learning; (ii) determine potential topics for curriculum, including but not limited to, science, humanities, and recreation; (iii) determine the number of districts in the commonwealth near department of conservation and recreation sites; (iii) identify any potential accessibility issues for students with intellectual or developmental disabilities in relation to outdoor learning at department of conservation and recreation sites; (iv) identify any potential costs associated with establishing outdoor learning curriculum to be taught at department of conservation and recreation sites; and (iii) identify resources to assist districts in implementing outdoor learning curriculum.

The task force shall file a report containing its findings and recommendations, including legislation necessary to carry out its recommendations, with the clerks of the senate and house of representatives by December 31, 2021.