

HOUSE No. 1284

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

James J. O'Day

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 authorize the state universities to offer clinical and professional doctorate programs.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>James J. O'Day</i>	<i>14th Worcester</i>	<i>1/18/2023</i>
<i>Daniel M. Donahue</i>	<i>16th Worcester</i>	<i>2/2/2023</i>
<i>Lindsay N. Sabadosa</i>	<i>1st Hampshire</i>	<i>2/14/2023</i>
<i>James C. Arena-DeRosa</i>	<i>8th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/14/2023</i>
<i>Paul McMurtry</i>	<i>11th Norfolk</i>	<i>3/16/2023</i>
<i>Natalie M. Higgins</i>	<i>4th Worcester</i>	<i>3/27/2023</i>
<i>Jacob R. Oliveira</i>	<i>Hampden, Hampshire and Worcester</i>	<i>6/27/2023</i>
<i>Rebecca L. Rausch</i>	<i>Norfolk, Worcester and Middlesex</i>	<i>7/11/2023</i>

HOUSE No. 1284

By Representative O'Day of West Boylston, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1284) of James J. O'Day and others for legislation to authorize state universities to offer clinical and professional doctorate programs. Higher Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court
(2023-2024)**

An Act to authorize the state universities to offer clinical and professional doctorate programs.

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 of chapter 73 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2020 Official Edition, is
2 hereby amended by striking out the first paragraph and inserting in place thereof the following
3 paragraph:-

4 Section 1: The state universities, as established by section 5 of chapter 15A shall provide
5 educational programs, research, extension, and continuing education services in the liberal, fine
6 and applied arts and sciences and other related disciplines through the doctorate degree level, to
7 include but not limited to clinical doctorate degrees and professional doctorate degrees. They
8 may not offer PhD level programs unless in cooperation with the University of Massachusetts
9 under authority granted by the board of higher education, concurred in by the boards of trustees
10 of the University of Massachusetts and of said state universities. They shall provide a major
11 emphasis on the preparation of teachers and other professional educational personnel. The board
12 of trustees of the state universities may grant the degree of Bachelor of Education or of Bachelor

13 of Science in Education to any person completing a four-year course in a state university, and the
14 degree of Master of Education to graduates of colleges or universities who have satisfactorily
15 completed a graduate course of instruction in any such university. The trustees may grant the
16 degree of Bachelor of Fine Arts to any student at the Massachusetts College of Art and Design
17 upon the successful completion of certain four-year prescribed courses in the field of fine arts,
18 and may grant the honorary degree of Doctor of Fine Arts at said college of art. The trustees may
19 grant the degree of Bachelor of Nautical Science to any person satisfactorily completing the
20 prescribed course of instruction at the Massachusetts Maritime Academy. The trustees may also
21 grant such other appropriate baccalaureate degrees at such state universities as it may determine
22 and prescribe. The trustees, as established by section 5 of chapter 15A, may also award academic
23 degrees at all appropriate levels, including clinical or professional doctoral degrees, as approved
24 by the board of higher education. They may also award such honorary degrees as they deem
25 appropriate.