

HOUSE No. 4415

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, February 26, 2024.

The committee on Education, to whom was referred the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 427) of Brian M. Ashe and others relative to the establishment of a school carbon monoxide safety trust fund to be administered by the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education, reports recommending that the accompanying bill (House, No. 4415) ought to pass.

For the committee,

DENISE C. GARLICK.

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

An Act relative to air quality in public 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. (a) There shall be an interagency task force to review and investigate indoor
2 air quality in public school buildings that provide education for children in kindergarten through
3 grade 12.

4 (b) The task force shall consist of the following 17 members or their designees: the
5 commissioner of elementary and secondary education, who shall serve as co-chair; the
6 commissioner of public health, who shall serve as co-chair; the executive director of the
7 Massachusetts school building authority; the director of the department of labor standards; the
8 commissioner of the department of environmental protection; the state fire marshal; 1 member
9 appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives; 1 member appointed by the minority
10 leader of the house of representatives; 1 member appointed by the senate president; 1 member
11 appointed by the minority leader of the senate; 1 member appointed by the governor who is an
12 expert in the field of environmental health and indoor air quality; and 1 member to be appointed
13 by each of the following organizations: the Massachusetts Association of School Committees,
14 Inc., the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents, Inc., the Massachusetts Teachers

15 Association, the American Federation of Teachers Massachusetts the Massachusetts Coalition
16 for Occupational Safety and Health, and the Massachusetts School Nurses Organization.

17 (c) The task force shall investigate indicators of indoor air quality in public school
18 buildings and ways to ensure adequate indoor air quality in such school buildings, including but
19 not limited to: (i) an assessment of carbon monoxide detection systems within each public school
20 building and each school's compliance with subsection (a¹/₂) of section 26F¹/₂ of chapter 148 of
21 the General Laws; (ii) best practices for the placement and installation of carbon monoxide
22 detection systems in public school buildings; (iii) the status of carbon dioxide levels in public
23 school buildings according to data collected from existing carbon dioxide monitoring systems in
24 public school buildings; (iv) the necessity and feasibility of installing carbon dioxide monitoring
25 systems in all public school buildings and collecting data from such systems; (v) the temporary
26 or ongoing use of equipment necessary to ensure adequate air filtration and ventilation within
27 public school buildings; (vi) the regulation of minimum and maximum allowable air
28 temperatures and relative humidity, as well as any relevant statistics on the number of air-
29 conditioned public schools; (vii) an evaluation of the grants distributed pursuant to 1599-2055 of
30 section 2A of chapter 102 of the acts of 2021; and (viii) the cost, including labor costs, of
31 implementing any recommendations.

32 (d) Not later than October 1, 2025, the task force shall file a report on its findings,
33 including any analysis, recommendations, or proposed legislation, with the clerks of the senate
34 and house of representatives and the chairs of the joint committee on education.