

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 466

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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PRESENTED BY:

*Carol A. Doherty*

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*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 promote the inclusion of American Sign Language in the Commonwealth's public schools.

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PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Carol A. Doherty</i>	<i>3rd Bristol</i>	<i>1/17/2023</i>
<i>Christopher Hendricks</i>	<i>11th Bristol</i>	<i>2/9/2023</i>
<i>James K. Hawkins</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>	<i>2/9/2023</i>
<i>Patrick M. O'Connor</i>	<i>First Plymouth and Norfolk</i>	<i>2/9/2023</i>
<i>Paul McMurtry</i>	<i>11th Norfolk</i>	<i>2/19/2023</i>
<i>Shirley B. Arriaga</i>	<i>8th Hampden</i>	<i>2/27/2023</i>
<i>Sally P. Kerans</i>	<i>13th Essex</i>	<i>2/27/2023</i>
<i>Jacob R. Oliveira</i>	<i>Hampden, Hampshire and Worcester</i>	<i>4/22/2023</i>

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 466

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By Representative Doherty of Taunton, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 466) of Carol A. Doherty and others relative to the inclusion of American Sign Language in public schools. Education.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

\_\_\_\_\_  
In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court  
(2023-2024)  
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An Act to promote the inclusion of American Sign Language in the Commonwealth's 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. Section 2B of Chapter 71 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2020  
2   Official Edition is hereby amended by, in line 8, striking out the word “may” and in place  
3   thereof, inserting the word “shall.”

4           Section 2. Section 2B of Chapter 71 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2020  
5   Official Edition is hereby amended by inserting, after the word “society” in line 8 the following:-  
6   “As many children with autism have been able to learn and communicate successfully via sign  
7   language because it is visually based, unaided, and provides a mode of quick communication.”