

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 477**

---

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Brandy Fluker Oakley***

*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 prohibiting the use of Native American mascots by public schools in the Commonwealth.

PETITION OF:

| NAME:                              | DISTRICT/ADDRESS:                       | DATE ADDED:      |
|------------------------------------|---|------------------|
| <i>Brandy Fluker Oakley</i>        | <i>12th Suffolk</i>                     | <i>1/19/2023</i> |
| <i>Lindsay N. Sabadosa</i>         | <i>1st Hampshire</i>                    | <i>1/19/2023</i> |
| <i>Bud L. Williams</i>             | <i>11th Hampden</i>                     | <i>1/20/2023</i> |
| <i>Jack Patrick Lewis</i>          | <i>7th Middlesex</i>                    | <i>1/20/2023</i> |
| <i>Samantha Montaño</i>            | <i>15th Suffolk</i>                     | <i>1/23/2023</i> |
| <i>Steven Owens</i>                | <i>29th Middlesex</i>                   | <i>1/25/2023</i> |
| <i>Russell E. Holmes</i>           | <i>6th Suffolk</i>                      | <i>1/25/2023</i> |
| <i>David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf</i> | <i>17th Worcester</i>                   | <i>1/25/2023</i> |
| <i>Tram T. Nguyen</i>              | <i>18th Essex</i>                       | <i>1/30/2023</i> |
| <i>Vanna Howard</i>                | <i>17th Middlesex</i>                   | <i>1/31/2023</i> |
| <i>Sally P. Kerans</i>             | <i>13th Essex</i>                       | <i>2/1/2023</i>  |
| <i>Patricia A. Duffy</i>           | <i>5th Hampden</i>                      | <i>2/2/2023</i>  |
| <i>Tackey Chan</i>                 | <i>2nd Norfolk</i>                      | <i>2/2/2023</i>  |
| <i>Erika Uytterhoeven</i>          | <i>27th Middlesex</i>                   | <i>2/3/2023</i>  |
| <i>David M. Rogers</i>             | <i>24th Middlesex</i>                   | <i>2/3/2023</i>  |
| <i>Ruth B. Balsler</i>             | <i>12th Middlesex</i>                   | <i>2/3/2023</i>  |
| <i>Rebecca L. Rausch</i>           | <i>Norfolk, Worcester and Middlesex</i> | <i>2/6/2023</i>  |
| <i>Adrian C. Madaro</i>            | <i>1st Suffolk</i>                      | <i>2/6/2023</i>  |

|                                 |                                |                  |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|
| <i>Jon Santiago</i>             | <i>9th Suffolk</i>             | <i>2/6/2023</i>  |
| <i>James J. O'Day</i>           | <i>14th Worcester</i>          | <i>2/6/2023</i>  |
| <i>Michelle M. DuBois</i>       | <i>10th Plymouth</i>           | <i>2/7/2023</i>  |
| <i>Carmine Lawrence Gentile</i> | <i>13th Middlesex</i>          | <i>2/10/2023</i> |
| <i>James B. Eldridge</i>        | <i>Middlesex and Worcester</i> | <i>2/16/2023</i> |
| <i>James C. Arena-DeRosa</i>    | <i>8th Middlesex</i>           | <i>2/17/2023</i> |
| <i>Natalie M. Blais</i>         | <i>1st Franklin</i>            | <i>2/19/2023</i> |
| <i>Natalie M. Higgins</i>       | <i>4th Worcester</i>           | <i>2/22/2023</i> |
| <i>David Paul Linsky</i>        | <i>5th Middlesex</i>           | <i>2/24/2023</i> |
| <i>Mindy Domb</i>               | <i>3rd Hampshire</i>           | <i>2/25/2023</i> |
| <i>Kate Lipper-Garabedian</i>   | <i>32nd Middlesex</i>          | <i>2/26/2023</i> |
| <i>Christine P. Barber</i>      | <i>34th Middlesex</i>          | <i>2/28/2023</i> |
| <i>Manny Cruz</i>               | <i>7th Essex</i>               | <i>2/28/2023</i> |
| <i>Daniel R. Carey</i>          | <i>2nd Hampshire</i>           | <i>2/28/2023</i> |
| <i>Michael P. Kushmerek</i>     | <i>3rd Worcester</i>           | <i>3/6/2023</i>  |
| <i>Thomas M. Stanley</i>        | <i>9th Middlesex</i>           | <i>3/6/2023</i>  |
| <i>Tommy Vitolo</i>             | <i>15th Norfolk</i>            | <i>3/16/2023</i> |
| <i>Kay Khan</i>                 | <i>11th Middlesex</i>          | <i>3/28/2023</i> |
| <i>Josh S. Cutler</i>           | <i>6th Plymouth</i>            | <i>5/2/2023</i>  |
| <i>Mike Connolly</i>            | <i>26th Middlesex</i>          | <i>5/22/2023</i> |
| <i>Carol A. Doherty</i>         | <i>3rd Bristol</i>             | <i>6/28/2023</i> |
| <i>Chynah Tyler</i>             | <i>7th Suffolk</i>             | <i>7/17/2023</i> |
| <i>Michelle L. Ciccolo</i>      | <i>15th Middlesex</i>          | <i>7/19/2023</i> |
| <i>Priscila S. Sousa</i>        | <i>6th Middlesex</i>           | <i>8/16/2023</i> |
| <i>Danillo A. Sena</i>          | <i>37th Middlesex</i>          | <i>8/18/2023</i> |
| <i>Christopher J. Worrell</i>   | <i>5th Suffolk</i>             | <i>8/24/2023</i> |

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 477**

---

---

By Representative Fluker Oakley of Boston, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 477) of Brandy Fluker Oakley and others for legislation to prohibit the use of Native American mascots by public schools. Education.

---

---

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

An Act prohibiting the use of Native American mascots by public schools in the Commonwealth.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 Chapter 71 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 98 the  
2 following section:-

3 Section 99. (a) The board of elementary and secondary education shall promulgate  
4 regulations to ensure that no public school uses an athletic team name, logo, or mascot which  
5 names, refers to, represents, or is associated with Native Americans, including aspects of Native  
6 American cultures and specific Native American tribes, or which denigrates any racial, ethnic,  
7 gender, or religious group. The board shall establish a date by which any school in violation of  
8 said regulations shall choose a new team name, logo, or mascot.

9 (b) Notwithstanding subsection (a), a public school may continue to use uniforms or other  
10 materials bearing their prohibited athletic team name, logo, or mascot that were purchased before  
11 a date prescribed by the board if all of the following requirements are met:

12 (1) The school selects a new school or athletic team name, logo, or mascot;

13           (2) The school refrains from purchasing or acquiring, for the purpose of distribution or  
14 sale to pupils or school employees, any uniform that includes or bears their prohibited team  
15 name, logo, or mascot;

16           (3) The school refrains from purchasing or acquiring, for the purpose of distribution or  
17 sale to pupils or school employees, any yearbook, newspaper, program, or other similar material  
18 that includes or bears the prohibited school or athletic team name, logo, or mascot in its logo,  
19 cover, or title;

20           (4) The school refrains from purchasing or constructing a marquee, sign, or other new or  
21 replacement fixture that includes or bears the prohibited school or athletic team name, logo, or  
22 mascot. This paragraph applies to facilities that bear the prohibited school or athletic team name,  
23 logo, or mascot, in which case the school shall remove the prohibited name, logo or mascot no  
24 later than the next time the associated part of the facility is replaced in the normal course of  
25 maintenance.

26           (c) This section shall not prohibit a Native American tribe, as identified by the  
27 commission on Indian affairs, located within the boundaries of the commonwealth, from  
28 choosing to use a Native-related name or logo for a sports team comprised of its tribal members,  
29 including a tribal school or intramural league, or from that tribal nation giving explicit consent  
30 for a school to use their particular tribal name.