

HOUSE No. 482

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

William C. Galvin, (BY REQUEST)

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 relative to school committee oversight.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Paul McAuliffe</i>		<i>1/10/2023</i>

HOUSE No. 482

By Representative Galvin of Canton (by request), a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 482) of Paul McAuliffe relative to school committee oversight of courses of study including courses concerning sexually transmitted infections. Education.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 4693 OF 2021-2022.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to school committee oversight.

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. Chapter 71 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after
2 section 97 the following section:-

3 Section 98. School Committees shall ensure that the courses of study prescribed by law
4 and by the rules of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education are carried out.

5 (a) The school committee may establish supplemental courses that are not inconsistent
6 with the prescribed courses and may adopt courses of study in lieu of state courses of study upon
7 approval by the district's Superintendent.

8 (b) For each course of study offered by a school district, the district school board shall
9 ensure that the following information is made available to the public on the school district's
10 website:

11 (i) The title of, or other descriptive information for, any textbooks and instructional
12 materials used for the course and, when available, a link for the textbook or instructional
13 materials;

14 (ii) A syllabus for, or written summary of, the course; and

15 (iii) When applicable, identification of the state academic content standards that are being
16 satisfied by the course.

17 (c) The school committee shall ensure that any changes to the information described in
18 subparagraph (b) of this paragraph are reflected on the school district's website within 30 days of
19 the change.

20 (d) Any school committee may establish a course of education concerning sexually
21 transmitted infections including recognition of causes, sources and symptoms, and the
22 availability of diagnostic and treatment centers. Any such course established may be taught to
23 adults from the community served by the individual schools as well as to students enrolled in the
24 school. The board shall cause the parents or guardians of minor students to be notified in
25 advance that the course is to be taught. Any such parent or guardian may direct in writing that
26 the minor child in the care of the parent or guardian be excused from any class within the course.
27 Any parent or guardian may inspect the instructional materials to be used before or during the
28 time the course is taught.