

SENATE No. 1237

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Joanne M. Comerford

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 student mental health.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Joanne M. Comerford</i>	<i>Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester</i>	
<i>Jack Patrick Lewis</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/24/2023</i>
<i>Susannah M. Whipps</i>	<i>2nd Franklin</i>	<i>1/29/2023</i>
<i>Vanna Howard</i>	<i>17th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/6/2023</i>
<i>Thomas M. Stanley</i>	<i>9th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/15/2023</i>
<i>Ryan C. Fattman</i>	<i>Worcester and Hampden</i>	<i>2/26/2023</i>
<i>Rebecca L. Rausch</i>	<i>Norfolk, Worcester and Middlesex</i>	<i>3/8/2023</i>

SENATE No. 1237

By Ms. Comerford, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1237) of Joanne M. Comerford, Jack Patrick Lewis, Susannah M. Whipps, Vanna Howard and other members of the General Court for legislation relative to student mental health. Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 1266 OF 2021-2022.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

—————
**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court
(2023-2024)**
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An Act relative to student mental health.

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 37R the following section:-

3 Section 37S. (a) A public school, including a charter school, that serves students in any of
4 grades 6 to 12, inclusive, that issues student identification cards shall include on the student
5 identification cards the telephone and text number for the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline.

6 (b) Subsection (a) shall apply to a student identification card issued to a new student and
7 to a student identification card issued to replace a student’s damaged or lost student identification
8 card.

9 SECTION 2. Chapter 73 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after
10 section 20 the following section:-

11 Section 21. (a) A public or private institution of higher education that issues student
12 identification cards shall include on the student identification cards the telephone and text
13 number for the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline.

14 (b) Subsection (a) shall apply to a student identification card issued to a new student and
15 to a student identification card issued to replace a student's damaged or lost student identification
16 card.

17 SECTION 3. (a) The provisions of section 37S of chapter 71 of the General Laws shall
18 take effect as of July 1, 2023; provided that if, as of July 1, 2023, a school subject to the
19 requirements of said section has a supply of unissued student identification cards that do not
20 comply with the section, the school may issue those student identification cards to students until
21 that supply is depleted.

22 (b) The provisions of section 21 of chapter 73 of the General Laws shall take effect as of
23 July 1, 2023; provided that if, as of July 1, 2023, a public or private institution of higher
24 education subject to the requirements of said section has a supply of unissued student
25 identification cards that do not comply with the section, the school may issue those student
26 identification cards to students until that supply is depleted.