

HOUSE No. 562

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Kate Donaghue and Greg Schwartz

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 increase substance use prevention and awareness and reduce overdose abandonment.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Kate Donaghue</i>	<i>19th Worcester</i>	<i>1/16/2025</i>
<i>Greg Schwartz</i>	<i>12th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/16/2025</i>
<i>Carmin Lawrence Gentile</i>	<i>13th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/20/2025</i>
<i>Vanna Howard</i>	<i>17th Middlesex</i>	<i>6/3/2025</i>

HOUSE No. 562

By Representatives Donaghue of Westborough and Schwartz of Newton, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 562) of Kate Donaghue, Greg Schwartz and Carmine Lawrence Gentile for legislation to further regulate public school substance use prevention policies. Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court
(2025-2026)**

An Act to increase substance use prevention and awareness and reduce overdose abandonment.

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 96 of Chapter 71 of the General Laws is hereby amended by
2 inserting after the second paragraph the following:-

3 Each public school’s substance use prevention policy shall include plans to educate and
4 inform students with particular attention to:

5 (1) the dangers of addictive substance use generally, and especially of opioids, and the
6 repercussions thereof, and

7 (2) the immunities granted under section 34A of chapter 94C of the general laws to
8 encourage the reporting of overdoses.

9 Schools may employ useful methods based on successful models used in other districts.

10 Schools may assess the effectiveness of their measures, share successful approaches with others,

11 and work for more effective substance use education in collaboration with the department of
12 public health and the department of elementary and secondary education.

13 SECTION 2. This act shall go into effect immediately upon its passage.