

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 740**

---

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Marcus S. Vaughn***

*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 mascot name changes.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Marcus S. Vaughn</i>	<i>9th Norfolk</i>	<i>1/3/2025</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 740**

---

By Representative Vaughn of Wrentham, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 740) of Marcus S. Vaughn relative to school mascot name changes. Education.

---

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 605 OF 2023-2024.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

An Act relative to school mascot name changes.

*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 37R the  
2 following section:-

3 Section 37S. (a) For the purposes of this section “school branding” shall mean any name,  
4 symbol or image used by a school as a mascot, nickname, logo, letterhead, team name, slogan,  
5 motto or other identifier.

6 (b) Prior to any change in school branding where the current school branding references  
7 any person, group of persons, organization, race, creed, color, national origin, sexual orientation  
8 or gender identity, the school committee for the school district that the school belongs to shall  
9 hold a hearing on the proposed school branding change. The hearing shall be open to the public  
10 and at least 1 representative of the group, organization or identity referenced in the school

- 11 branding shall be in attendance at the hearing and shall be given the opportunity to speak on the
- 12 proposed school branding change.
- 13 (c) The commissioner shall adopt rules and regulations to carry out this section.