

HOUSE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Adam J. Scanlon

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 admissions requirements to institutions of higher education.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Adam J. Scanlon</i>	<i>14th Bristol</i>	<i>1/6/2025</i>

HOUSE No.

[Pin Slip]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to admissions requirements to institutions of higher education.

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: The department of higher education shall review the practice of requiring
2 applicants to take a standardized college entrance aptitude test to gain admittance to an
3 undergraduate degree program at a public institution of higher education in the commonwealth.

4 The review shall include an analysis of the number of public institutions of higher
5 education in Massachusetts and in other states that require a standardized college entrance
6 aptitude test, that make the test optional, or that do not permit the use of the tests and recent
7 trends in this area; the number of states that do not require or do not permit the use of such tests
8 by law or regulation and their experience; the impact on student success and achievement of not
9 requiring or not permitting the use of such tests; the extent to which the SAT and ACT tests
10 accurately and reliably measure skills and knowledge that indicate a student’s achievements,
11 abilities and college readiness; evidence of bias in the tests; and the impact of standardized
12 admission tests on diversity among students, including diversity among racial and ethnic groups,

13 income and wealth resources, and among immigrant and first-generation students, and other
14 topics as determined by the department.

15 In preparing the review, the department shall consult with people concerned with or with
16 expertise regarding standardized admission tests, including leaders of secondary and public
17 higher education institutions, students of public higher education institutions, people with
18 academic expertise in admission criteria and standardized testing, organizations concerned about
19 standardized admissions testing; organizations representing people of color, immigrants, and
20 low-income people, and others as determined by the department.

21 The review shall be published on the website of the department and submitted to the
22 chairs of the joint committee on higher education, the joint committee on education, and the joint
23 committee on racial equity, civil rights, and inclusion no later than 1 year after the effective date
24 of this act.