

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

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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PRESENTED BY:

***Manny Cruz and Estela A. Reyes***

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*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 expand the use of career and academic plans.**

\_\_\_\_\_

PETITION OF:

| NAME:             | DISTRICT/ADDRESS: | DATE ADDED:      |
|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| <i>Manny Cruz</i> | <i>7th Essex</i>  | <i>1/15/2025</i> |

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

[Pin Slip]

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 444 OF 2023-2024.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

An Act to expand the use of career and academic plans.

*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, as appearing in the 2022 official edition, is amended by  
2 adding the following new section:-

3 Section 100. (a) For the purposes of this section, the following terms shall have the  
4 following meanings:

5 “college and career pathway program”, a high school based program, designated by the  
6 department of elementary and secondary education, which offers a sequenced and/or career-  
7 themed set of academic and/or work-based learning experiences, including designated early  
8 college programs, vocational-technical education programs, innovation pathways programs, and  
9 STEM tech career academies which can lead to, in the department’s opinion, improved college  
10 and career readiness outcomes.

11 “individual learning plan”, a plan devised by individual students with assistance from a  
12 designated educator that provides a clear and detailed student academic pathway from secondary  
13 to post- secondary education or career with regard to coursework, sequencing and  
14 experiences beyond the classroom, beginning in the ninth grade or earlier.

15 “MyCAP”, an acronym for My Career and Academic Plan, a process for creating a  
16 student’s individual learning plan as defined in this subsection, and supported by utilization of an  
17 online platform,

18 (b) All public school districts shall ensure that all high school students, beginning in the  
19 ninth grade, have developed, with the support of a designated educator and an online platform  
20 approved by the department of elementary and secondary education, an individual learning plan  
21 as defined in subsection a of this section. Said plans shall allow students to continue to adapt said  
22 plans and to make reasonable and relevant changes to their plans through the course of their  
23 secondary education that allow for a continuing process of alignment with the student’s needs  
24 and planning goals. Districts will provide support to students to participate in the development  
25 and refinement of their plans. Districts will also make every reasonable effort to offer students  
26 the experiences identified in their plans to ensure alignment with, and accomplishment of, the  
27 student’s goals for post-graduate success.

28 (c) Nothing contained herein will prevent districts from beginning the process of having  
29 students develop individual learning plans prior to beginning high school, for students within  
30 their jurisdictions.

31 (d) Districts shall report annually to the department of elementary and secondary  
32 education on their progress in meeting the requirements contained in this section.

33           (e) The department of elementary and secondary education shall develop guidance for  
34 districts to oversee and ensure their compliance with the provisions of this section, aligned with  
35 their current guidance to districts utilizing the structure of the MyCAP system and its  
36 component parts.

37           (f) This section will take effect on September 1, 2028.