

HOUSE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Nicholas A. Boldyga

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 facilitate homeschooling and encourage educational innovation.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Nicholas A. Boldyga</i>	<i>3rd Hampden</i>	<i>1/16/2025</i>

HOUSE No.

[Pin Slip]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act to facilitate homeschooling and encourage educational innovation.

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. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary,

2 (a) Any parent or legal guardian wishing to educate their child at home shall only be
3 required to submit a one-time letter of intent to the Department of Elementary and Secondary
4 Education (DESE) indicating their decision to homeschool. No further annual notifications are
5 required unless the family moves to a different district.

6 (b) The letter of intent shall include the name, age, and grade level of each child being
7 homeschooled, the address where the homeschooling will take place, and a statement of intent to
8 provide an education in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth.

9 Section 2. Curriculum and Assessment

10 (a) Homeschooling families shall have the autonomy to choose the curriculum, teaching
11 methods, and educational materials without state oversight, except where such education must
12 include basic subjects like reading, writing, history, civics, math, and science.

13 (b) No state-mandated assessments or standardized testing shall be required for
14 homeschooled students unless the parent opts into such assessments voluntarily.

15 Section 3. Educational Innovation and Alternative Models

16 (a) Establishment. Any individual or group may establish an alternative education model
17 by registering with the DESE as an "Educational Innovation Entity" (EIE). This registration shall
18 not require any specific credentials or state approval beyond the submission of a basic
19 educational plan.

20 (b) Plan Contents. The educational plan shall outline the educational philosophy or
21 model, the primary subjects or skills to be taught, and methods of evaluation or demonstration of
22 student progress, which may include portfolios, exhibitions, or other non-traditional assessments.

23 (c) Funding and Support. The state shall create an "Innovation in Education Fund" to
24 which EIEs can apply for grants to support curriculum development, facility costs, or other
25 educational expenses. This fund will be supported by reallocating a portion of the education
26 budget based on the number of students in alternative models and seeking private donations or
27 federal grants aimed at educational innovation.

28 (d) Regulatory Relief. EIEs are exempt from traditional public school regulations
29 concerning teacher certification, curriculum standards, and mandatory standardized testing, and
30 from local zoning laws specifically related to educational use, provided safety and health codes
31 are met.

32 (e) Student Enrollment. Students enrolled in an EIE shall be considered as fulfilling
33 compulsory education requirements. They may also participate in public school extracurricular
34 activities if agreed upon by local school districts.

35 Section 4. Oversight and Accountability

36 (a) While specific state oversight is minimized, EIEs must maintain records of student
37 progress and be prepared to provide them if a complaint is lodged against the entity concerning
38 educational quality or child welfare.

39 (b) The DESE shall conduct periodic, non-intrusive reviews of EIEs to ensure broad
40 compliance with the educational objectives set forth in their plans, focusing on student outcomes
41 rather than process.