

SENATE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Patricia D. Jehlen

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 fire safety education in schools and colleges.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Patricia D. Jehlen

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Second Middlesex

SENATE No.

[Pin Slip]

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 2313 OF 2023-2024.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to fire safety education in schools and colleges.

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. Chapter 15A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official
2 Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after section 47 the following section:-

3 Section 48. Establishment of a fire safety curriculum. (a) For the purposes of this section,
4 the following term shall, unless the context clearly requires otherwise, have the following
5 meaning:- “Institute of higher education”, all postsecondary institutions including: (i) the system
6 of public institutions of higher education, established in section 5; (ii) private occupational
7 schools, as defined in section 263 of chapter 112; and (iii) private colleges, universities and other
8 institutions of higher learning.

9 (b) All institutes of higher education shall require students to complete a comprehensive
10 fire safety curriculum from an expert source. The curriculum shall cover fire safety in a variety
11 of scenarios, including, but not limited to, fire prevention and escape, what to do in case of both

12 smoldering and flaming fires, kitchen fires, electrical fires, vehicle fires, smoke inhalation, and
13 carbon monoxide poisoning. Students shall complete an examination to test student proficiency.

14 SECTION 2. Chapter 71 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition,
15 is hereby amended by inserting after section 99 the following section:-

16 Section 100. Establishment of a fire safety curriculum. (a) For the purposes of this
17 section, the following term shall, unless the context clearly requires otherwise, have the
18 following meaning:- “School”, every public or private elementary and secondary school in the
19 commonwealth; provided, however, that the term school shall not include colleges and
20 universities.

21 (b) All schools shall require students to complete a comprehensive fire safety curriculum
22 by the end of the 10th grade from an expert source. The curriculum shall cover fire safety in a
23 variety of scenarios, including, but not limited to, fire prevention and escape, what to do in case
24 of both smoldering and flaming fires, kitchen fires, electrical fires, vehicle fires, smoke
25 inhalation, and carbon monoxide poisoning. Students shall complete an examination to test
26 student proficiency.