

SENATE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Jason M. Lewis

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 improving pesticide protections for Massachusetts schoolchildren.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Jason M. Lewis

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Fifth Middlesex

SENATE No.

[Pin Slip]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to improving pesticide protections for Massachusetts schoolchildren.

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. Section 6C of Chapter 132B of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the word "center", in lines 3, 6 and 10,
3 each time it appears, the following words:- , property occupied by the department of children and
4 families, facilities of the juvenile court, facilities of the department of youth services, sports
5 fields for town youth teams.

6 SECTION 2. Said Section 6C of said Chapter 132B, as so appearing, is hereby further
7 amended by inserting after the word "program", in lines 3, 7 and 11, each time it appears, the
8 following words:- or on properties within 150 feet thereof, including abutters.

9 SECTION 3. Said Section 6C of said Chapter 132B, as so appearing, is hereby further
10 amended by inserting after the word "school", in line 11 and line 27, the following words:- or
11 department.

12 SECTION 4. Said Section 6C of said Chapter 132B, as so appearing, is hereby further
13 amended by adding the following new subsection:-

14 (d) This section shall apply regardless of what entity hires a party to spray, release,
15 deposit or apply pesticides. This section shall apply whether a hiring entity is a public or private
16 owner of real property, a management company for real property, or any other person or legal
17 entity.

18 SECTION 5. Said section 6G of said chapter 132B, as so appearing, is hereby further
19 amended by adding following paragraph:-

20 Notwithstanding the forgoing, a school, child care center, public institution of higher
21 education or school age child care program shall only use pesticide products that: (i) are
22 classified by the United States Environmental Protection Agency as an exempt material pursuant
23 to 40 C.F.R. 152.25, as amended; or (ii) include no active ingredients other than those published
24 in the National List at 7 C.F.R 205.601, as amended; provided, however, that a school, child care
25 center, public institution of higher education or school age child care program may be granted a
26 hardship waiver, at the discretion of the department, for use of a pesticide that does not meet
27 such qualifications.