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| Image1 | The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  SPECIAL JOINT COMMITTEE ON  INITIATIVE PETITIONS  STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133 |

**Special Joint Committee on Initiative Petitions**

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| Rep. Alice H. Peisch | Sen. Cindy F. Friedman |
| House Chair | Senate Chair |

**HEARING NOTICE**

**Date of Hearing:** Monday, March 4, 2024

**Time:** 1:00 PM-4:00 PM

**Location:** A-2 and streamed virtual

The Joint Committee on Initiative Petitions will conduct a hearing in Room A-2, on Monday, March 4, 2024, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on ballot initiative NO. 23-36, An Act requiring that districts certify that students have mastered the skills, competencies and knowledge of the state standards as a replacement for the MCAS graduation requirement (House, No. 4252).

The Joint Committee will hear invited testimony from experts, proponents, and opponents. The public is invited to participate in this hearing. Advanced registration to present in person oral testimony is required of anyone other than those invited. Those wishing to register to testify may do so by emailing Mollie Cecconi at [Mary.Cecconi@mahouse.gov](mailto:Mary.Cecconi@mahouse.gov). Please include your name, address, whether you support or oppose the question, and whether your testimony is on behalf of yourself or an organization. Participation will be limited as the portion of the hearing dedicated to public testimony is schedule for 60 minutes. Should more people register than time can accommodate they will be directed to submit written testimony.

Chairs will limit testimony of the general public to 3 minutes per speaker. Please be advised that the schedule and agenda are subject to change at the discretion of the chairs per Committee rules.

Written testimony can be submitted to the Committee via email at [**SpecialJointCommitteeonInitiativePetitions@malegislature.gov**](mailto:SpecialJointCommitteeonInitiativePetitions@malegislature.gov). The deadline to submit written testimony is Friday, March 8th at 5:00 PM.

The livestream of this hearing will be available on the Legislature's website [here](https://malegislature.gov/).

You may contact Committee staff with any questions at [Mary.Cecconi@mahouse.gov](mailto:Mary.Cecconi@mahouse.gov) or [Elizabeth.Berman@masenate.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Berman@masenate.gov)

| **Bill No.** |  | **Title** | | **Page #** |
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| H4252 | | An Act requiring that districts certify that students have mastered the skills, competencies and knowledge of the state standards as a replacement for the MCAS graduation requirement | | 4 | | |

Please be advised that the schedule and agenda are subject to change at the discretion of the chairs per committee rules.

**Special Joint Committee on Initiative Petitions**

**Bill Summary  
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| **BILL NUMBER** | House, No. 4252 |
| **TITLE** | An Act requiring that districts certify that students have mastered the skills, competencies and knowledge of the state standards as a replacement for the MCAS graduation requirement |
| **HEARING DATE** | Monday, March 4, 2024, 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM |
| **SUMMARY**  SUMMARY OF NO. 23-36  This proposed law would eliminate the requirement that a student pass the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) tests (or other statewide or district-wide assessments) in mathematics, science and technology, and English in order to receive a high school diploma. Instead, in order for a student to receive a high school diploma, the proposed law would require the student to complete coursework certified by the student’s district as demonstrating mastery of the competencies contained in the state academic standards in mathematics, science and technology, and English, as well as any additional areas determined by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education. | |