

HOUSE No. 2011

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Paul Brodeur

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 charter school admissions.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Paul Brodeur

James B. Eldridge

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

32nd Middlesex

Middlesex and Worcester

HOUSE No. 2011

By Mr. Brodeur of Melrose, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2011) of Paul Brodeur and James B. Eldridge relative to charter school admissions. Education.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 321 OF 2015-2016.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
(2017-2018)**

An Act relative to charter school admissions.

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: Subsection (n) of said section 89 of said Chapter 71 is hereby amended by
2 striking the second paragraph and inserting in its place the following paragraph:-

3 For the purpose of this subsection, an eligible student is defined any student who would
4 be eligible to attend the charter school under the district’s assignment policy if it were a district
5 school. Said student shall be deemed eligible for enrollment in said charter school without any
6 required application process for the school. If the total number of students who are eligible to
7 attend a charter school and who reside in the city or town in which the charter school is located
8 or are siblings of students already attending said charter school, is greater than the number of
9 spaces available, an opt-out admissions lottery that automatically includes the names of all
10 eligible students shall be held to fill all of the spaces in that school from among the students. If

11 there are more spaces available than eligible students from the city or town in which the charter
12 school is located and who are siblings of current students than spaces left available, an opt-out
13 admissions lottery that automatically includes the names of all eligible students shall be held to
14 determine which eligible students shall be admitted; provided, however, that a lottery conducted
15 for Horace Mann charter schools shall reflect the enrollment priorities of this section.

16 Notwithstanding this subsection, upon application by the board of trustees of a charter school or
17 by the persons or entities seeking to establish a charter school, the board may amend or grant a
18 charter designating such school a regional charter school; provided, however, that such regional
19 charter school shall be exempt from the local preference provision of this paragraph; provided
20 further, that such regional charter school shall continue to grant a preference of siblings of
21 currently enrolled students; and provided further, that if the number of eligible students
22 remaining is greater than the number of spaces available, such regional charter school shall
23 conduct a single opt-out lottery to determine which eligible students shall be admitted.