

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 02871**

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

***Gloria L. Fox***

*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 passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to investment in employment programs that save our youth .

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Gloria L. Fox</i>	<i>7th Suffolk</i>
<i>Sean Garballey</i>	<i>23rd Middlesex</i>
<i>Frank I. Smizik</i>	<i>15th Norfolk</i>
<i>Carlo Basile</i>	<i>1st Suffolk</i>
<i>Marcos A. Devers</i>	<i>16th Essex</i>
<i>Kevin G. Honan</i>	<i>17th Suffolk</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>
<i>Elizabeth A. Malia</i>	<i>11th Suffolk</i>
<i>Tom Sannicandro</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>
<i>Ellen Story</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>
<i>Benjamin Swan</i>	<i>11th Hampden</i>
<i>Josh Young, Director Legislative Affairs</i>	<i>Action for Boston Community Development, Inc.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>178 Tremont Street</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Boston, MA 02111</i>

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 02871

By Ms. Fox of Boston, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2871) of Swan and others relative to investment in programs to support youth employment Joint Committee on Labor and Workforce Development.

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Eleven

An Act relative to investment in employment programs that save our youth .

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by  
2 the authority of the same, as follows:

3 SECTION 1. Chapter 23H of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after Section 11  
4 the following:-

5 Section 12. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, it shall be the policy of  
6 the Commonwealth to invest in low-income, disadvantaged youth with high-impact programs  
7 that mitigate violence in inner-city neighborhoods and provide education and job skills in school  
8 that promote long-term economic success.

9 The Department of Workforce Development shall coordinate with Action for Boston Community  
10 Development, Inc. (ABCD) on a year-round, at-risk youth employment and career exploration  
11 program. The program focuses on providing low-income, disadvantaged youth with a jump start

12 in building the skills, credentials and attitudes they will need to succeed in school and at work. It  
13 offers exposure to a variety of career paths; skills training; academic remediation and support;  
14 case management; mentoring; links to ongoing education and employment opportunities, and  
15 monitoring.

16 1) Participants will be enrolled in one of a range of career exploration tracks—which provide  
17 real-world experience and training in industries as diverse as biotechnology, construction trades,  
18 hospitality, health services, computer technologies, financial services, early education and care.

19

20 Career tracks will provide meaningful, in-depth training as well as a chance to learn about job  
21 opportunities. For example, the Construction Pre-Apprenticeship, offered in conjunction with the  
22 Boston Building Trades Training Directors Association, provides up to 175 hours of training in  
23 building trade skills, exploring all aspects of the construction industry. Career exploration  
24 incorporates hands-on training through individual and group activities, tools and equipment  
25 orientation, and field trips to worksites.

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27 2) Participants receive individual and group mentoring from experienced professionals in the  
28 targeted industry areas.

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30 3) The academic skills and credentials needed in each career field are used to provide a context  
31 for individual academic assessment and remediation. For students in high school, emphasis will  
32 be placed on MCAS tutoring as well as completing course requirements. Out-of-school youth

33 will be placed in a GED program or other educational alternatives, including diploma granting  
34 alternative education programs.

35

36 4) All participants will receive support services through a case management model which offers  
37 assessment, development of an individual service plan, information/referral services, and  
38 ongoing counseling.