

HOUSE No. 3402

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Alan Silvia

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 to provide targeted pre-k education to all four year old children meeting specific requirements in all gateway cities (26).

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Alan Silvia</i>	<i>7th Bristol</i>
<i>Marcos A. Devers</i>	<i>16th Essex</i>
<i>Aaron Vega</i>	<i>5th Hampden</i>
<i>Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr.</i>	<i>12th Hampden</i>
<i>Carole A. Fiola</i>	<i>6th Bristol</i>
<i>Patricia A. Haddad</i>	<i>5th Bristol</i>
<i>Jose F. Tosado</i>	<i>9th Hampden</i>
<i>Tricia Farley-Bouvier</i>	<i>3rd Berkshire</i>
<i>Ann-Margaret Ferrante</i>	<i>5th Essex</i>
<i>Antonio F. D. Cabral</i>	<i>13th Bristol</i>
<i>Elizabeth A. Poirier</i>	<i>14th Bristol</i>
<i>Mary S. Keefe</i>	<i>15th Worcester</i>
<i>Michael D. Brady</i>	<i>9th Plymouth</i>
<i>Paul R. Heroux</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>
<i>Leah Cole</i>	<i>12th Essex</i>
<i>Michelle M. DuBois</i>	<i>10th Plymouth</i>
<i>Diana DiZoglio</i>	<i>14th Essex</i>

Frank A. Moran
Carlos Gonzalez

17th Essex
10th Hampden

HOUSE No. 3402

By Mr. Silvia of Fall River, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3402) of Alan Silvia and others for legislation to provide pre-kindergarten education to four year old children meeting specific requirements in gateway cities. Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court
(2015-2016)**

An Act to provide targeted pre-k education to all four year old children meeting specific requirements in all gateway cities (26).

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

1 Chapter 13 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 13 the
2 following section:-

3 Section 13A. (a) The board and department shall develop a program for universal pre-
4 kindergarten education in gateway municipalities, as defined in section 3A of chapter 23A,
5 which shall be available to all children ages 4 and older who reside in a gateway municipality
6 and would be eligible for free or reduced price lunch if the child attended a public school;
7 provided, that the program may be available to children ages 3 and older who otherwise meet the
8 requirements of this subsection.

9 (b) In developing the program, the board and department shall: (1) establish a
10 standardized pre-kindergarten curriculum for all program participants; (2) partner with current
11 providers of pre-kindergarten services in gateway communities, who shall include, but is not

12 limited to, public, private, and faith-based educational programs; and (3) focus on the specific
13 cognitive, linguistic, social, emotional, cultural, and physical needs of the children in each
14 gateway municipality.

15 (c) Each child who qualifies for the universal pre-kindergarten program established by
16 this section shall be counted as a student of the school district in which the child attends the pre-
17 kindergarten program, and shall be included as such a student for the purposes of calculating that
18 district's funding pursuant to chapter 70.

19 (d) The board and department shall provide vouchers to eligible households as necessary
20 to fully implement the universal pre-kindergarten education program established by this section.

21 (e) The board shall adopt regulations relative to the requirements of this section.