

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3593**

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Carlos Gonzalez***

*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 prevent over saturation of clinical or educational programs in low income neighborhoods under the Dover amendment without local approval.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Carlos Gonzalez</i>	<i>10th Hampden</i>
<i>Daniel M. Donahue</i>	<i>16th Worcester</i>
<i>James J. Dwyer</i>	<i>30th Middlesex</i>
<i>Michael J. Finn</i>	<i>6th Hampden</i>
<i>Carole A. Fiola</i>	<i>6th Bristol</i>
<i>Frank A. Moran</i>	<i>17th Essex</i>
<i>Jose F. Tosado</i>	<i>9th Hampden</i>
<i>Aaron Vega</i>	<i>5th Hampden</i>
<i>Timothy R. Whelan</i>	<i>1st Barnstable</i>
<i>Bud Williams</i>	<i>11th Hampden</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3593**

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By Mr. Gonzalez of Springfield, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3593) of Carlos Gonzalez and others relative to substance use and alcohol addiction centers and clinics in low income municipalities. Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court  
(2017-2018)**  
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An Act to prevent over saturation of clinical or educational programs in low income neighborhoods under the Dover amendment without local approval.

*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. The General Court hereby finds and declares that the use of the dover  
2 amendment in low income cities and towns without local approval may incentivize the  
3 oversaturation of substance use and alcohol addiction centers and clinics in low income cities  
4 and towns, and the failure to put property purchased for educational purposes to productive use  
5 in a timely manner, therefore, low income cities and towns should participate in the decision to  
6 approve the use of land under the dover amendment.

7           SECTION 2. The second paragraph of section 3 of chapter 40A of the General Laws, as  
8 appearing in the 2014 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the word  
9 “requirements”, in lines 51 and 52, the following words:- ; provided, further, that no such land or  
10 structures located in a low income city or town, defined for purposes of this paragraph as a city  
11 or town whose average median income is equal to 60 per cent or less of the average median  
12 income of the commonwealth, shall be used for educational purposes pursuant to this section,

13 including, but not limited to the purpose of opening a substance abuse or alcohol rehabilitation  
14 center or a clinic, nor be exempt from zoning regulation pursuant to this section, without first  
15 obtaining the approval of the legislative body of such city or town.

16 SECTION 3. Said section 3 of said chapter 40A, as so appearing, is hereby further  
17 amended by adding the following paragraph:-

18 Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, any person, organization,  
19 institution or corporation that purchases property within a city or town to be used for educational  
20 purposes pursuant to this section, and who fails, within 2 years to substantially improve such  
21 property shall be assessed at the property's highest and best use at commercial rate for such  
22 property, with no exemption.