

HOUSE No. 3601

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf

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 educator review of matters related to classroom instruction.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf

17th Worcester

Patricia D. Jehlen

Second Middlesex

HOUSE No. 3601

By Mr. LeBoeuf of Worcester, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3601) of David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf and Patricia D. Jehlen for legislation to establish the education policy commission. Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court
(2019-2020)**

An Act relative to educator review of matters related to classroom instruction.

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 15 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the following 2 sections:-

2 Section 67. (a) As used in this section and in section 68, the following words shall, unless
3 the context clearly requires otherwise, have the following meanings:-

4 “Commission”, the education policy commission established in this section.

5 “Public school”, any school administered by a school department of a city or town or
6 regional school district, a county agricultural school, a commonwealth charter school or a Horace
7 Mann charter school established pursuant to section 89 of chapter 71.

8 (b) There shall be established within the department, but not under its control or the
9 control of the board, an independent state agency known as the education policy commission.

10 (b) The commission shall consist of:

11 (i) 4 persons to be appointed by the commissioner, 1 of whom shall have experience
12 teaching students enrolled in kindergarten through grade 5 in a public school, 1 of whom shall
13 have experience teaching students enrolled in grades 6 through 12 in a public school, 1 of whom
14 shall have experience teaching in a public school classroom for children who have been
15 diagnosed with a specific learning disability and 1 of whom shall be an expert in classroom
16 instruction and possess a Doctor of Philosophy in education;

17 (ii) 4 persons to be appointed by the board, 1 of whom shall have experience teaching
18 students enrolled in kindergarten through grade 5 in a public school, 1 of whom shall have
19 experience teaching students enrolled in grades 6 through 12 in a public school, 1 of whom shall
20 have experience teaching in a public school classroom for children who have been diagnosed
21 with a specific learning disability and 1 of whom shall be an expert in classroom instruction and
22 possess a Doctor of Philosophy in education; and

23 (iii) 3 persons to be appointed by the governor, 1 of whom shall have experience teaching
24 students in a public school to be selected from a list of 3 nominees offered by the Massachusetts
25 Teachers Association, 1 of whom shall have experience administering a public school or school
26 district to be selected from a list of 3 nominees offered by the Massachusetts Association of
27 School Superintendents, Inc., and 1 of whom shall be an expert in classroom instruction and
28 possess a Doctor of Philosophy in education to be selected from a list of 3 nominees offered by
29 the Massachusetts Association of School Committees, Inc.

30 (c) Members shall be appointed for a term of 3 years and no member shall serve for more
31 than 2 consecutive terms. The commission shall annually elect 1 of its members to serve as
32 chairperson. Six members of the board shall constitute a quorum, and the affirmative vote of 6

33 members of the board shall be necessary and sufficient for any action taken by the board. No
34 vacancy in the membership of the board shall impair the right of a quorum to exercise all the
35 rights and duties of the commission.

36 (d) The members of the commission shall serve without compensation but may be
37 reimbursed, subject to appropriation, for expenses necessarily and reasonably incurred in the
38 performance of their responsibilities. Members shall not be considered state employees for
39 purposes of chapter 268A by virtue of their membership on the commission.

40 (e) The commission shall not be required to obtain the approval of any other officer or
41 employee of any executive agency in connection with the collection or analysis of any
42 information; nor shall the commission be required, prior to publication of any report pursuant to
43 subsection (c) of section 68, to obtain the approval of any other officer or employee of any
44 executive agency with respect to the substance of any reports which the commission has
45 prepared.

46 Section 68. (a) The commission shall monitor state and federal legislation and proposed
47 state and federal regulations dealing with public education. If the commission determines that
48 legislation or proposed regulations may impact or alter classroom instruction or how educators
49 approach or apply classroom instruction, it shall conduct a study of such legislation or proposed
50 regulation. The study shall include, but shall not be limited to, an examination of: (i) how the
51 legislation or proposed regulation will impact or alter classroom instruction or educators'
52 approach to or application of methods of classroom instruction; (ii) the predicted outcomes, costs
53 and benefits, both short-term and long-term, the legislation or proposed regulation will have on
54 teachers and students; (iii) the perceived reasons justifying such legislation or proposed

55 regulation; (iv) any potential alternatives to the legislation or proposed regulation that would
56 have a more positive impact.

57 (b) Within 180 days of commencing a study pursuant to subsection (a), the commission
58 shall submit a report on its findings in connection with that study to: (i) the department; (ii) the
59 clerks of the house of representatives and senate; and (iii) the joint committee on education. The
60 report shall include any recommendations regarding the legislation or proposed regulation that
61 the commission may have.