

HOUSE No. 03680

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Jason M. Lewis

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 specific curriculum for continuing education in schools

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PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>David B. Sullivan</i>	<i>6th Bristol</i>
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>

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[Pin Slip]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Eleven

An Act relative to specific curriculum for continuing education in schools

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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. Section 71 of chapter 38G of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2008 Official
- 2 Edition, is hereby amended by adding the following 3 paragraphs:-
- 3 The board shall require all public schools to develop a continuing education course. The
- 4 department of elementary and secondary education shall be responsible for establishing the
- 5 specific curriculum of the course. The course material should be covered in 4 to 6 hours during
- 6 professional development training.
- 7 All educators are required to take the course within 3 years of hire or show that the course
- 8 material has been covered by their educational program within the last 10 years. All teachers are
- 9 required to take the continuing education course at least every 10 years.
- 10 The course shall contain:-

- 11 (A) Understanding of the schools' and educators legal obligations:-
- 12 (i) 504 education plans
- 13 (ii) Individualized education program
- 14 (iii) Progress Reporting
- 15 (iv) Writing measurable goals
- 16 (v) Accommodations
- 17 (vi) Parent/teacher communication
- 18 (vii) Confidentiality
- 19 (viii) Special requirements for Autism Spectrum
- 20 (ix) Safety obligations particularly for those with physical disabilities; and
- 21 (x) State reporting obligations
- 22 (B) Understanding the types of disabilities that exist including but not limited to the
- 23 following:-
- 24 (i) Language based learning disorders, including dyslexia:
- 25 (1) Physical Disabilities, including: vision impairment; hearing impairment; speech
- 26 impairments, including dysparaxia; and
- 27 (2) Health impairment, including tubular sclerosis and autoimmune disorders;

28 (3) Pervasive development disorder and autism spectrum disorder, including: classic and
29 high functioning autism, asperger's syndrome and non verbal learning disorders;

30 (ii) Emotional Disorders:-

31 (1) Depression;

32 (2) Bipolar disorder; and

33 (3) Anxiety disorders

34 (iii) Attention deficit disorder and Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder:-

35 (1) Inattentive;

36 (2) Hyperactive; and

37 (3) Combined type

38 (iv) Downs Syndrome

39 (v) Cerebral Palsy

40 (vi) Spina Bifida

41 (vii) Mitochondrial disorders and

42 (viii) Other types of developmental delays

43 (C) Interventions and supports:-

- 44 (i) Accommodations in the classroom, including extra time to take exams, web and
45 computer-based classroom note taking, seating placement, fidget objects, charts, activity and leg-
46 stretching breaks;
- 47 (ii) Educational methods for teaching academically challenging material;
- 48 (iii) Behavioral assessment charting, plans and interventions;
- 49 (iv) Social and emotional supports; and
- 50 (v) Data acquisition

51 SECTION 2. All educators currently in any public school system shall take the course
52 established in section 1 within 3 years of passage of this act, unless the educators can
53 demonstrate that they have covered the course material within the past 10 years.