

HOUSE No. 447

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Josh S. Cutler and Paul A. Schmid, III

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 supporting student participation in 4-H programs.

PETITION OF:

| NAME: | DISTRICT/ADDRESS: | DATE ADDED: |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| <i>Josh S. Cutler</i> | <i>6th Plymouth</i> | <i>1/16/2023</i> |
| <i>Paul A. Schmid, III</i> | <i>8th Bristol</i> | <i>1/19/2023</i> |
| <i>Joan Meschino</i> | <i>3rd Plymouth</i> | <i>1/19/2023</i> |
| <i>Marcus S. Vaughn</i> | <i>9th Norfolk</i> | <i>1/20/2023</i> |
| <i>Christopher M. Markey</i> | <i>9th Bristol</i> | <i>1/23/2023</i> |
| <i>Steven S. Howitt</i> | <i>4th Bristol</i> | <i>1/23/2023</i> |
| <i>Patricia A. Haddad</i> | <i>5th Bristol</i> | <i>1/23/2023</i> |
| <i>Samantha Montaño</i> | <i>15th Suffolk</i> | <i>1/23/2023</i> |
| <i>Hannah Kane</i> | <i>11th Worcester</i> | <i>1/24/2023</i> |
| <i>Joseph D. McKenna</i> | <i>18th Worcester</i> | <i>1/24/2023</i> |
| <i>Tram T. Nguyen</i> | <i>18th Essex</i> | <i>1/24/2023</i> |
| <i>Lenny Mirra</i> | <i>2nd Essex</i> | <i>1/25/2023</i> |
| <i>Adrienne Pusateri Ramos</i> | <i>14th Essex</i> | <i>1/26/2023</i> |
| <i>Carmine Lawrence Gentile</i> | <i>13th Middlesex</i> | <i>1/28/2023</i> |
| <i>Nicholas A. Boldyga</i> | <i>3rd Hampden</i> | <i>1/31/2023</i> |
| <i>Tackey Chan</i> | <i>2nd Norfolk</i> | <i>2/1/2023</i> |
| <i>Carol A. Doherty</i> | <i>3rd Bristol</i> | <i>2/2/2023</i> |
| <i>Thomas M. Stanley</i> | <i>9th Middlesex</i> | <i>2/3/2023</i> |

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|------------------|
| <i>Paul W. Mark</i> | <i>Berkshire, Hampden, Franklin and Hampshire</i> | <i>2/5/2023</i> |
| <i>Tricia Farley-Bouvier</i> | <i>2nd Berkshire</i> | <i>2/8/2023</i> |
| <i>Edward R. Philips</i> | <i>8th Norfolk</i> | <i>2/9/2023</i> |
| <i>Peter Capano</i> | <i>11th Essex</i> | <i>2/15/2023</i> |
| <i>Lindsay N. Sabadosa</i> | <i>1st Hampshire</i> | <i>2/18/2023</i> |
| <i>Paul McMurtry</i> | <i>11th Norfolk</i> | <i>2/20/2023</i> |
| <i>Christopher Richard Flanagan</i> | <i>1st Barnstable</i> | <i>2/23/2023</i> |
| <i>Vanna Howard</i> | <i>17th Middlesex</i> | <i>2/27/2023</i> |

HOUSE No. 447

By Representatives Cutler of Pembroke and Schmid of Westport, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 447) of Josh S. Cutler, Paul A. Schmid, III and others relative to student participation in 4-H programs. Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court
(2023-2024)**

An Act relative to supporting student participation in 4-H programs.

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. Chapter 76 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the following
2 section:-

3 Section 22. (a) A student who participates in an activity or program sponsored by
4 Massachusetts 4-H shall be credited as present by the school in which the student is enrolled in
5 the same manner as an educational field trip. A school committee shall not count a student absent
6 for participating in an activity or program sponsored by Massachusetts 4-H.

7 (b) Upon request from a school committee, a Massachusetts 4-H agent shall provide
8 documentation as proof of a student's participation in an activity or program sponsored by
9 Massachusetts 4-H.

10 (c) A school committee shall ensure that a student has the opportunity to make up any
11 school work missed while the student was participating in an activity or program sponsored by
12 Massachusetts 4-H. A school committee shall ensure that a student's class grades are not

13 adversely affected for lack of attendance or participation due to the student's participation in an
14 activity or program sponsored by Massachusetts 4-H.

15 (d) Notwithstanding subsection (a), a school committee shall not credit a student who
16 participates in an activity or program sponsored by Massachusetts 4-H as present if the student's
17 participation occurs during:

18 (1) The schedule established by the commissioner of education for the administration of
19 the Massachusetts comprehensive assessment system tests; or

20 (2) Any period of time for which the student has been suspended or expelled, if the
21 student's suspension or expulsion would otherwise preclude the student from participating in an
22 educational field trip.

23 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.