

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 465**

---

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Carol A. Doherty and Ryan M. Hamilton*

*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 establishing comprehensive school counseling programs.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Carol A. Doherty</i>	<i>3rd Bristol</i>	<i>1/20/2023</i>
<i>Ryan M. Hamilton</i>	<i>15th Essex</i>	<i>1/20/2023</i>
<i>Adrian C. Madaro</i>	<i>1st Suffolk</i>	<i>2/6/2023</i>
<i>James C. Arena-DeRosa</i>	<i>8th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/9/2023</i>
<i>James K. Hawkins</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>	<i>2/9/2023</i>
<i>Rodney M. Elliott</i>	<i>16th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/19/2023</i>
<i>Shirley B. Arriaga</i>	<i>8th Hampden</i>	<i>2/27/2023</i>
<i>Sally P. Kerans</i>	<i>13th Essex</i>	<i>2/27/2023</i>
<i>Sean Garballey</i>	<i>23rd Middlesex</i>	<i>3/9/2023</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 465**

By Representatives Doherty of Taunton and Hamilton of Methuen, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 465) of Carol A. Doherty, Ryan M. Hamilton and others relative to establishing comprehensive school counseling programs. Education.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

An Act establishing comprehensive school counseling 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 Chapter 71 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2020 Official Edition is hereby  
2 amended by inserting the following:-

3 “Each public school district shall develop and implement a comprehensive school  
4 counseling program that adheres to the Massachusetts Model for Comprehensive School  
5 Counseling Programs and ensures all pre-K to grade twelve (12) students will receive school  
6 counseling services from licensed school counselors. In accordance with the Model, each school  
7 counselor is to spend at least eighty percent (80%) of that school counselor’s time providing  
8 direct or indirect services to students. To maintain equity in student access to a school counselor,  
9 each district shall provide one (1) school counselor for a maximum of two hundred fifty (250)  
10 students, the nationally recommended average.”