

HOUSE No. 495

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Angelo M. Scaccia

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 to authorize codes of conduct for players, coaches, officials, and parents in athletic settings.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Angelo M. Scaccia

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

14th Suffolk

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 553 OF 2007-2008.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE CODES OF CONDUCT FOR PLAYERS, COACHES, OFFICIALS, AND PARENTS IN ATHLETIC SETTINGS.

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 1B of Chapter 69 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2002 Official
2 Edition, is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following new sentence:—
3 The board shall promulgate guidelines relative to a code of conduct for public school athletic
4 programs for the health and safety of all participants.

5 SECTION 2. Chapter 71 of the General Laws, as appearing in the Official Edition, is hereby
6 amended by inserting after section 47A the following new section:—
7 Section 47B. Athletic Programs Codes of Conduct.

8 Upon acceptance of this section, a school committee may require that all students, coaches,
9 officials, or parents of students as a condition of participation in all athletic programs by the
10 student sign a contractual code of conduct which may require the student, parents, coaches or
11 officials to refrain from verbal or physical threats or abuse aimed at any other student, coach,

- 12 official or other parent. The school committee may prohibit the presence of such student, coach,
- 13 parents or official at subsequent events if it determines the contractual code has been violated.