

HOUSE No. 528

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Martha M. Walz

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 making school district reporting requirements more efficient and effective.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Martha M. Walz</i>	<i>8th Suffolk</i>
<i>William N. Brownsberger</i>	<i>Second Suffolk and Middlesex</i>
<i>Michael R. Knapik</i>	<i>Second Hampden and Hampshire</i>
<i>James J. Dwyer</i>	<i>30th Middlesex</i>
<i>Kenneth I. Gordon</i>	<i>21st Middlesex</i>
<i>Tricia Farley-Bouvier</i>	<i>3rd Berkshire</i>
<i>James M. Cantwell</i>	<i>4th Plymouth</i>
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>31st Middlesex</i>
<i>Anne M. Gobi</i>	<i>5th Worcester</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>
<i>Robert M. Koczera</i>	<i>11th Bristol</i>
<i>Peter V. Kocot</i>	<i>1st Hampshire</i>
<i>David Paul Linsky</i>	<i>5th Middlesex</i>
<i>John V. Fernandes</i>	<i>10th Worcester</i>
<i>Carolyn C. Dykema</i>	<i>8th Middlesex</i>
<i>Karen E. Spilka</i>	<i>Second Middlesex and Norfolk</i>
<i>Patricia D. Jehlen</i>	<i>Second Middlesex</i>
<i>Denise Andrews</i>	<i>2nd Franklin</i>

<i>Alice Hanlon Peisch</i>	<i>14th Norfolk</i>
<i>Paul Brodeur</i>	<i>32nd Middlesex</i>
<i>Jennifer E. Benson</i>	<i>37th Middlesex</i>
<i>Sean Garballey</i>	<i>23rd Middlesex</i>
<i>David M. Rogers</i>	<i>24th Middlesex</i>
<i>Thomas M. Stanley</i>	<i>9th Middlesex</i>
<i>Brian M. Ashe</i>	<i>2nd Hampden</i>
<i>Theodore C. Speliotis</i>	<i>13th Essex</i>

HOUSE No. 528

By Ms. Walz of Boston, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 528) of Martha M. Walz and others relative to requiring the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to review state-mandated reporting requirements for school districts . Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen

An Act making school district reporting requirements more efficient and effective.

Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to improve the efficiency of public school reporting requirements, therefore, it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.

□

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 The department of elementary and secondary education shall prepare a report (a)
2 identifying the state laws, regulations, administrative directives and past practices that require
3 school districts to prepare and submit reports and data, including but not limited to those that
4 apply to special education, (b) analyzing the value of the reports and data submissions, and (c)
5 identifying the state laws that require the department of elementary and secondary education to
6 submit reports to the legislature based on information it must obtain from school districts.

7 The report shall include, but not be limited to, examining the value of these reports and
8 data in improving student achievement and reducing achievement gaps. The report shall identify
9 reports and data submissions that are duplicative of one another and of reports and data
10 submissions required under federal law. The department shall propose recommendations that
11 may include, but are not limited to, the elimination or modification of the reports and data
12 submitted under state requirements and ways in which reports and data submissions can be
13 consolidated or provided more efficiently. The report shall also include a description of all
14 current and planned efforts by the department to improve the ways in which it collects reports
15 and data from school districts, including through the use of technology to ease reporting
16 requirements.

17 The department shall work in consultation with the American Federation of Teachers,
18 Massachusetts Association of School Committees, Massachusetts Association of School
19 Superintendents, Massachusetts Elementary School Principals' Association, Massachusetts
20 Secondary School Administrators' Association, Massachusetts Parent Teacher Association,
21 Massachusetts Teachers Association and the members of Mass Partners for Public Schools in
22 preparing its report. To the extent practicable, these organizations shall provide staff to assist the
23 department in preparing its report.

24 The department shall file its report, together with drafts of legislation, if any, necessary to
25 carry out its recommendations no later than July 31, 2014 by filing the same with the clerks of
26 the house of representatives and the senate who shall forward a copy of the report to the joint
27 committee on education.