

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 587**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Jeffrey Rosario Turco***

*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 securing parental consent for human sexuality education.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Jeffrey Rosario Turco</i>	<i>19th Suffolk</i>	<i>1/18/2023</i>
<i>Joseph D. McKenna</i>	<i>18th Worcester</i>	<i>1/18/2023</i>
<i>Kelly W. Pease</i>	<i>4th Hampden</i>	<i>1/31/2023</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 587**

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By Representative Turco of Winthrop, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 587) of Jeffrey Rosario Turco, Joseph D. McKenna and Kelly W. Pease relative to securing parental consent for human sexuality education. Education.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

An Act relative to securing parental consent for human sexuality education.

*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. The first sentence of Section 32A of Chapter 71 of the General Laws, as  
2 appearing in the 2020 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out after the word  
3 “primarily” the following words: “ensuring parental/guardian notification. involves human  
4 sexual education or human sexuality issues shall adopt a policy Such policy shall afford parents  
5 or guardians the flexibility to exempt their children from any portion of said curriculum through  
6 written notification to the school principal” and inserting in place thereof the following words:-  
7 involves human sexual education or human sexuality issues shall adopt a policy ensuring  
8 notification to a parent or guardian, the flexibility to exempt their child/children from any portion  
9 of this curriculum, and requiring the consent of the parent or guardian for their child’s  
10 participation.

11           SECTION 2. The first paragraph of said section 32A, as so appearing, is hereby amended  
12 by striking out the last sentence.

13 SECTION 3. The first sentence of the third paragraph of said section 32A, as so  
14 appearing, is hereby further amended by striking out the following words: “To the extent  
15 practicable,” and inserting in place thereof the word:-“All”.

16 SECTION 4. The first sentence of the third paragraph of said section 32A, as so  
17 appearing, is hereby further amended by inserting after the word “review,” the following words:-  
18 at least 21 days before the planned instruction.

19 SECTION 5. Said Chapter 71, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by inserting  
20 after section 32A the following section:-

21 Section 32B. (a) Notification to a parent or guardian and a request for their consent shall  
22 be provided by email, online form, text message, phone call or United States mail at least 21  
23 days before a presentation involving human sexual education or human sexuality issues.

24 (b) Notification to a parent or guardian and a request for their consent shall explicitly  
25 identify the topics of abortion, birth control and laws regarding minors’ reproductive health when  
26 these topics are included in a presentation involving human sexual education or human sexuality  
27 issues.

28 (c) Notification to a parent or guardian and a request for their consent shall  
29 include the names of agencies to which a student may be referred for reproductive health issues,  
30 including birth control, abortion and reproductive health services.

31 (d) A parent or guardian shall provide consent in writing to the school principal for their  
32 child to attend a presentation involving human sexual education or human sexuality issues. No

33 child shall be penalized if their parent or guardian declines to give permission for them to  
34 participate in such presentation.

35 (e) Each school district's website shall identify objectives related to abortion, birth  
36 control and laws for minors' consent for reproductive health-care services when these topics are  
37 included in "Health curriculum," "Wellness education," "Personal Responsibility Education  
38 Programs" and similar or related programs.

39 (f) For each violation of this policy and for each child affected, a school district shall pay,  
40 as compensation to each aggrieved parent or guardian, the amount of \$500.