

HOUSE No. 636

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Bradley H. Jones, Jr.

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 a commission to study mental health education requirements in public schools.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Bradley H. Jones, Jr.</i>	<i>20th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/18/2021</i>
<i>Susan Williams Gifford</i>	<i>2nd Plymouth</i>	<i>2/25/2021</i>
<i>Paul K. Frost</i>	<i>7th Worcester</i>	<i>3/11/2021</i>
<i>Kimberly N. Ferguson</i>	<i>1st Worcester</i>	<i>3/22/2021</i>
<i>Mathew J. Muratore</i>	<i>1st Plymouth</i>	<i>3/23/2021</i>
<i>Steven S. Howitt</i>	<i>4th Bristol</i>	<i>3/31/2021</i>
<i>Hannah Kane</i>	<i>11th Worcester</i>	<i>4/1/2021</i>

HOUSE No. 636

By Mr. Jones of North Reading, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 636) of Bradley H. Jones, Jr. and others for legislation to establish a special commission (including members of the General Court) to study mental health education requirements in public schools. Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court
(2021-2022)**

An Act establishing a commission to study mental health education requirements in public schools.

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. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, there shall be a
2 special commission to study the implementation of a statewide mental health education
3 curriculum in public schools.

4 SECTION 2. The commission shall consist of the house and senate chairs of the joint
5 committee on education, who shall serve as the co-chairs; one member to be appointed by the
6 speaker of the house of representatives; one member to be appointed by the president of the
7 senate; one member to be appointed by the house minority leader; one member to be appointed
8 by the senate minority leader; the commissioner of the department of elementary and secondary
9 education or a designee; the commissioner of the department of public health or a designee; one
10 member who shall be a licensed psychiatrist, and one member who shall be a licensed clinical
11 mental health counselor.

12 SECTION 3. The commission shall make recommendations regarding the components of
13 the curriculum, including but not limited to understanding mental health illnesses and symptoms
14 and best practices for maintaining good mental health. The commission shall make
15 recommendations on the appropriate qualifications for educators leading the curriculum.

16 SECTION 4. The commission shall submit its report and findings, along with any
17 recommendations and drafted legislation, to the house and senate committees on ways and
18 means, the joint committee on education, and the clerks of the house of representatives and
19 senate within 12 months of the passage of this act.