

SENATE No. 00183

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Harriette L. Chandler

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 design, pilot, and implement civics as a high school graduation requirement.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Harriette L. Chandler</i>	<i>First Worcester</i>
<i>Sonia Chang-Diaz</i>	<i>Second Suffolk</i>
<i>Kathi-Anne Reinstein</i>	<i>16th Suffolk</i>
<i>Byron Rushing</i>	<i>9th Suffolk</i>
<i>Eileen M. Donoghue</i>	<i>First Middlesex</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>
<i>Jennifer L. Flanagan</i>	<i>Worcester and Middlesex</i>
<i>Michael O. Moore</i>	<i>Second Worcester</i>
<i>Richard T. Moore</i>	<i>Worcester and Norfolk</i>
<i>James Arciero</i>	<i>2nd Middlesex</i>
<i>Cory Atkins</i>	<i>14th Middlesex</i>
<i>Denise Andrews</i>	<i>2nd Franklin</i>
<i>Thomas P. Conroy</i>	<i>13th Middlesex</i>
<i>Gloria L. Fox</i>	<i>7th Suffolk</i>
<i>John P. Fresolo</i>	<i>16th Worcester</i>
<i>Sean Garballey</i>	<i>23rd Middlesex</i>
<i>Thomas A. Golden, Jr.</i>	<i>16th Middlesex</i>

<i>Kate Hogan</i>	<i>3rd Middlesex</i>
<i>Louis L. Kafka</i>	<i>8th Norfolk</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>
<i>David M. Nangle</i>	<i>17th Middlesex</i>
<i>James J. O'Day</i>	<i>14th Worcester</i>
<i>Brian Ashe</i>	<i>2nd Hampden</i>
<i>Carl M. Sciortino, Jr.</i>	<i>34th Middlesex</i>
<i>Stephen Stat Smith</i>	<i>28th Middlesex</i>
<i>Richard Bastien</i>	<i>2nd Worcester</i>
<i>Frank I. Smizik</i>	<i>15th Norfolk</i>
<i>Ellen Story</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>
<i>Michael F. Rush</i>	<i>Suffolk and Norfolk</i>
<i>Linda Dean Campbell</i>	<i>15th Essex</i>
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>31st Middlesex</i>
<i>Karen E. Spilka</i>	<i>Second Middlesex and Norfolk</i>
<i>Ruth B. Balsler</i>	<i>12th Middlesex</i>
<i>Stephen L. DiNatale</i>	<i>3rd Worcester</i>
<i>Tom Sannicandro</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>
<i>Carolyn C. Dykema</i>	<i>8th Middlesex</i>
<i>Jonathan Hecht</i>	<i>29th Middlesex</i>
<i>Thomas M. Stanley</i>	<i>9th Middlesex</i>
<i>David B. Sullivan</i>	<i>6th Bristol</i>

SENATE No. 00183

By Ms. Chandler, petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 183) of Fox, Bastien, Smith and other members of the General Court for legislation to design civics as a high school graduation requirement [Joint Committee on Education].

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the Year Two Thousand Eleven
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An Act to design, pilot, and implement civics as a high school graduation requirement.

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 2 of Chapter 71 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2008
2 Official Edition, is amended, in line 7, by inserting after “ ... for the duties of citizenship.” The
3 following:

4 Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the Department of
5 Elementary and Secondary Education and the Executive Office of Education, in collaboration
6 with a youth advisory committee, shall develop a new curriculum for a High School Civics
7 course which shall include but not be limited to: Function and composition of the branches of
8 local, state, and federal government, the history of social movements, current events, and
9 community-based action and service-learning projects. The curriculum shall be developed no
10 later than May 1, 2012. The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and the
11 Executive Office of Education, in collaboration with a youth advisory committee, shall also

12 develop a pilot program for the implementation of this course which shall begin no later than the
13 beginning of the 2012-2013 academic school year. The Department of Elementary and
14 Secondary Education and the Executive Office of Education, in collaboration with a youth
15 advisory committee, shall also develop a plan for full implementation of this civics course as a
16 high school graduation requirement to begin no later than the first day of the 2014-2015
17 academic school year.

18 SECTION 2: There shall be a youth advisory committee consisting of 2 members of the
19 Governor's Youth Council, 2 members of the State Student Advisory Council, 1 member of the
20 Special Commission on Civic Engagement and Learning, 5 members of Teens Leading The
21 Way, and 2 youth designated by the Board of Education.

22 SECTION 3: The youth advisory committee, representatives from the Department of
23 Elementary and Secondary Education and the Executive Office of Education shall convene their
24 first meeting not later than 60 days after the effective date of this act.