

**SENATE . . . . . No. 00186**

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

*Katherine M. Clark*

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 relative to charter schools.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Katherine M. Clark</i>	<i>Middlesex and Essex</i>
<i>Stephen L. DiNatale</i>	<i>3rd Worcester</i>
<i>John V. Fernandes</i>	<i>10th Worcester</i>
<i>Linda Dorcena Forry</i>	<i>12th Suffolk</i>
<i>Carl M. Sciortino, Jr.</i>	<i>34th Middlesex</i>
<i>Frank I. Smizik</i>	<i>15th Norfolk</i>

**SENATE . . . . . No. 00186**

By Ms. Clark, petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 186) of Smizik, Sciortino, Forry and other members of the General Court for legislation relative to charter schools [Joint Committee on Education].

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the Year Two Thousand Eleven  
\_\_\_\_\_

An Act relative to charter 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. Section 89(ff) of Chapter 71 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding  
2 at the end thereof the following:

3           Notwithstanding the foregoing, only commonwealth charter school applications that have  
4 received the approval of the local or regional school committee(s), or voters of school district(s)  
5 or regional school district(s) at town meetings or at general elections, shall be funded pursuant to  
6 the provisions of this section. Approval of an application by the board without the approval of  
7 either the school committee or the voters of the district(s) pursuant to subsection (nn) of this  
8 section shall be funded by the board, exclusive of Chapter 70 or other local funds.

9           Section 2. Section 89 of Chapter 71 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding at  
10 the end thereof the following:

11 (nn) Notwithstanding any provision of this section to the contrary, commonwealth charter  
12 school applications may be approved by any of the following actions: by the approval of the  
13 application by the school committee for each school district from which the charter school is  
14 expected to enroll students, by the approval of the voters at town meetings of each town from  
15 which the charter school is expected to enroll students, or in a city by the approval of the city  
16 council, by whatever title it may be known, and the Mayor, or in the alternative by vote at a  
17 general biennial state election by municipalities from which the charter school is expected to  
18 enroll students, or by the approval of the board. Applications that have received the aforesaid  
19 local approval for a commonwealth charter school shall comply with the provisions for such  
20 submission pursuant to the applicable provisions of this section.

21 Section 3. This act shall apply only to commonwealth charter school applications  
22 submitted after the date upon which the act becomes effective.