

SENATE No. 2079

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Fourteen

An Act coordinating services for at-risk youth.

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. Chapter 12 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2010 Official Edition,
2 is hereby amended by adding the following section:

3 Section 33. (a) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the district
4 attorney in each district may establish, subject to appropriation, a community-based
5 juvenile/youthful justice program for the purposes of ensuring the safety and security of the
6 public and private schools of that district; addressing the problems of juvenile and youthful
7 violence; improving the services available to school-age youth; ensuring the effective use of
8 resources by state and local law enforcement and various state agencies; and promoting
9 collaboration among schools, local and state law enforcement agencies, municipalities, the
10 probation department, and the departments of children and families, youth services, mental
11 health and public health. The program shall assist in the development of school and community-
12 based programs that are designed to prevent violence, including dating and sexual assault, and
13 delinquency, develop techniques for the early identification of at-risk youth, divert non-violent
14 youthful offenders from the juvenile or criminal justice system, and ensure the availability of and
15 access to community-based rehabilitative services including, but not limited to, substance abuse
16 services for youthful offenders when appropriate.