

**SENATE . . . . . No. 297**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Edward J. Kennedy*

*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 to expand dual enrollment for high school students in Gateway Cities.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Edward J. Kennedy</i>	<i>First Middlesex</i>	
<i>Joanne M. Comerford</i>	<i>Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester</i>	<i>2/10/2023</i>

**SENATE . . . . . No. 297**

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By Mr. Kennedy, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 297) of Edward J. Kennedy and Joanne M. Comerford for legislation to expand dual enrollment for high school students in Gateway Cities. Education.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE SENATE, NO. 350 OF 2021-2022.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

An Act to expand dual enrollment for high school students in Gateway Cities.

*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 15A of the General Laws, as so appearing in the 2020 edition, is  
2 hereby amended by inserting after section 9B the following new section:-

3           Section 9C. The department shall administer an Early College Access Program, subject to  
4 appropriation, providing needs-based financial assistance for high school students eligible for the  
5 Commonwealth Dual Enrollment Partnership (CDEP). Such assistance shall be granted to  
6 students living in or attending high school in a gateway municipality, as defined in section 3A of  
7 chapter 23A, and who also qualify for or receive free or reduced-price lunch under the federally-  
8 funded school meals program. Students receiving financial assistance under the Early College  
9 Access Program will participate in CDEP at no cost and may earn up to 24 college credits.