

**SENATE . . . . . No. 56**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

**Joan M. Menard**

*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 promote healthy behaviors.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Joan M. Menard

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

First Bristol and Plymouth

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE SENATE, NO. S00096 OF 2007-2008.]

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

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### AN ACT TO PROMOTE HEALTHY BEHAVIORS.

*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 111 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after  
2 section 24J, the following section:- Section 24K. The department shall establish a program of  
3 community based health and sexuality education services provided by comprehensive family  
4 planning agencies. Said program shall be designed to promote healthy behaviors among  
5 adolescents and/or guardians by providing science based health information and education.

6 Community based health education staff shall promote healthy behaviors within the community  
7 by providing specialized education and outreach to targeted high risk populations, parents and  
8 guardians and to staff of community based agencies providing services to young people. Said  
9 specialized education and outreach program shall include efforts to reduce unintended  
10 pregnancy; promote abstinence in order to delay adolescent sexual activity; increase parental  
11 ability to communicate with their children about healthy sexuality; and reduce unhealthy risk  
12 taking behavior among all individuals.

- 13 For the purposes of the section, comprehensive family planning agencies shall be defined
- 14 pursuant to section 24E of this chapter.