

SENATE No. 837

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 relative to voluntary school based influenza prevention pilot program.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Joan M. Menard	First Bristol and Plymouth
Kay Khan	11th Middlesex

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT RELATIVE TO VOLUNTARY SCHOOL BASED INFLUENZA PREVENTION PILOT PROGRAM.

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.** A. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, and subject to
2 appropriation, the Department of Health shall establish a school-based influenza vaccination pilot
3 program. Participation in the program shall be voluntary on the part of the school district and shall be
4 administered with the consent of the student's parents or legal guardian. In implementing this program,
5 the department shall maximize the use of influenza vaccine available through the federal Vaccines for
6 Children Program for eligible children as well as other federal and state resources for influenza vaccine.
7 The Department may seek, receive, and spend money received through an appropriation, grant, donation,
8 or reimbursement from any public or private source to implement the pilot program.

9 **SECTION 2.** Upon completing the program, the department shall submit a written report on its
10 findings and recommendations to the Committee on Health Care Financing. The report shall include the
11 following:

- 12 (1) An assessment of the benefits of establishing school-based influenza vaccination programs; and
- 13 (2) Identification of the barriers to implementing school-based influenza vaccination programs and
- 14 recommend strategies for removing such barriers; and

15 (3) An examination of the fiscal impact to the state of school-based influenza vaccination programs.