

SENATE No. 838

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Michael O. Moore

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 relative to advanced placement examinations.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Michael O. Moore</i>	<i>Second Worcester</i>	
<i>John J. Cronin</i>	<i>Worcester and Middlesex</i>	<i>2/13/2023</i>
<i>James K. Hawkins</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>	<i>2/13/2023</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	<i>2/22/2023</i>
<i>Adam Gomez</i>	<i>Hampden</i>	<i>3/2/2023</i>
<i>Hannah Kane</i>	<i>11th Worcester</i>	<i>3/2/2023</i>

SENATE No. 838

By Mr. Moore, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 838) of Michael O. Moore, John J. Cronin, James K. Hawkins, James B. Eldridge and other members of the General Court for legislation relative to advance placement examinations. Higher Education.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 849 OF 2021-2022.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to advanced placement examinations.

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 appearing in the 2020 Official Edition
2 is hereby amended by inserting after section 39 the following section:-

3 Section 39A. (a) All public institutions of higher education, as set forth in section 5, shall
4 develop and adopt written policies and procedures to accept a score of three, four, and five on all
5 advanced placement examinations to satisfy degree requirements. The policies shall indicate
6 whether the credit shall be granted for general education, major, or elective requirements at the
7 institution, and shall include procedures related to the transferability of these credits to another
8 institution of higher education. An institution may not require an exam score of more than three
9 unless the chief academic officer provides evidence that the higher score is necessary for a
10 student to be successful in a related or more advanced course for which the lower-division course

11 is a prerequisite. The department of higher education shall provide guidance on what constitutes
12 as evidence for an institution to require an examination score of more than three.

13 (b) All policies and procedures governing the award of credit shall be posted on the
14 institution's website under the category of admission, which the institution shall update as
15 necessary to reflect any changes in policies and procedures. In addition, each institution shall
16 submit its policies and procedures, or any changes thereto, to the department of higher education
17 who shall post each institution's policies and procedures, or changes thereto, on the department's
18 website.

19 (c) The board of higher education, and in the case of the University of Massachusetts, in
20 cooperation with the board of trustees of the University of Massachusetts, shall annually review
21 the advanced placement examination score course granting policies of each institution of higher
22 education and any evidence supporting policies requiring scores above 3 in accordance with the
23 requirements of this section, and report its findings, evidence supporting scores above 3, and any
24 recommendations with the clerks of the senate and the house of representatives, and the chairs of
25 the joint committee on higher education not later than July 1. Each institution of higher education
26 shall provide the board of higher education, and in the case of the University of Massachusetts,
27 its board of trustees, with all necessary data, in accordance with the federal Family Educational
28 Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, to conduct the analysis.

29 SECTION 2. The first annual report required by subsection (c) of section 39A of chapter
30 15A of the General Laws shall be published not later than July 1, 2023.

31 SECTION 3. Section 1 shall take effect no later than 3 months after the effective date of
32 this act.