SENATE DOCKET, NO. 1853 FILED ON: 1/21/2011

SENATE . . . . . No. 184

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Harriette L. Chandler

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:

An Act providing health education in schools..

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Harriette L. Chandler	
	☐ *[District]*
	☐

SENATE DOCKET, NO. 1853 FILED ON: 1/21/2011

SENATE . . . . . No. 184

By Ms. Chandler, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 184) of Harriette L. Chandler for legislation to provide health education in schools. Education.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE
SENATE
, NO. *218* OF 2009-2010.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

An Act providing health education in schools..

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 1D of chapter 69 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2008 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the word “languages”, in line 6, the words “health education”.

SECTION 2. Paragraph 3 of said section 1D of said chapter 69, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by striking out the fourth sentence and inserting in place thereof the following sentence:- The standards for health education shall be age-appropriate, medically accurate and shall, at minimum, provide for instruction in the following areas: growth and physical development, physical activity and fitness, nutrition, reproduction and sexuality, mental health, family life, interpersonal relationships, disease prevention and control, safety and injury prevention, tobacco, alcohol, and other substance use and abuse prevention, consumer health and resource management, ecological health, and community and public health.

SECTION 3. Consistent with the provisions of section 1E of said chapter 69, the Massachusetts Comprehensive Health Curriculum Framework shall be construed as a guide for local school districts in the development and selection of curriculum, textbooks and instructional materials.

SECTION 4. Paragraph 14 of section 1I of said chapter 69, as so appearing, is hereby amended by adding the following clause:-

18 (l) health education.

19 SECTION 5. Consistent with the provisions of section 32A of chapter 71, every city,
20 town, regional school district or vocational school district implementing or maintaining
21 curriculum which primarily involves human sexual education or human sexuality issues shall
22 adopt a policy ensuring parental/guardian notification. Such policy shall afford parents or
23 guardians the flexibility to exempt their children from any portion of said curriculum through
24 written notification to the school principal. No child so exempted shall be penalized by reason of
25 such exemption. To the extent practicable, program instruction materials for said curriculum
26 shall be made reasonably accessible to parents, guardians, educators, school administrators, and
27 others for inspection and review.

28 SECTION 6. Nothing in this act shall be construed to require an MCAS exam on health
29 education.

30 SECTION 7. The foundation budget must be re-evaluated in the categories of (1)
31 classroom and specialist teachers, (2) instructional equipment, and (3) professional development
32 to ensure sufficient funding to provide the health education envisioned in the Frameworks and
33 Section 2 above.

34 SECTION 8. This act shall take effect on July 1, 2013.