

**SENATE . . . . . No. 215**

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

*Cynthia S. Creem*

*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 authorizing a study of starting times and schedules.

PETITION OF:

| NAME:                    | DISTRICT/ADDRESS:                  |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <i>Cynthia S. Creem</i>  | <i>First Middlesex and Norfolk</i> |
| <i>James B. Eldridge</i> | <i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>     |
| <i>James Arciero</i>     | <i>2nd Middlesex</i>               |

**SENATE . . . . . No. 215**

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By Ms. Creem, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 215) of Cynthia S. Creem, James B. Eldridge and James Arciero for legislation to authorize a study of school day starting times and schedules. Education.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION

SEE

□ □ SENATE  
□ , NO. 192 OF 2011-2012.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

An Act authorizing a study of starting times and schedules.

*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. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the department  
2 of elementary and secondary education is hereby authorized and directed to conduct a  
3 comprehensive study relative to the effect which high school starting times have on the health  
4 and academic performance of students. Said study shall include, but not be limited to, a survey of  
5 high school starting times and the duration of high school academic hours throughout the  
6 commonwealth, and shall make findings relative to the effect which high school starting times  
7 have on student academic performance and health. Provided further, that such study shall make  
8 recommendations relative to whether high school starting times should be scheduled later in the  
9 morning, and how school districts can adapt school day starting times to enhance student  
10 education and health. Said study shall also review and make recommendations relative to other  
11 school day scheduling issues which affect high school starting times. Said department, in the  
12 conduct of said study shall examine relevant scientific studies and academic research, and shall  
13 request comment and suggestions from students, teachers, and education policy makers, provided  
14 further, that said department shall conduct no less than two public hearings to ensure public input  
15 and comment. A copy of said study shall be filed with the senate and house clerks and the senate  
16 and house chairmen of the Joint Committee on Education not later than six months after the  
17 enactment of this act.