

HOUSE No. 235

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Marjorie C. Decker

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 to mandate recess for elementary school children.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Marjorie C. Decker</i>	<i>25th Middlesex</i>
<i>Mike Connolly</i>	<i>26th Middlesex</i>
<i>Sal N. DiDomenico</i>	<i>Middlesex and Suffolk</i>
<i>Michelle M. DuBois</i>	<i>10th Plymouth</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>
<i>Patricia D. Jehlen</i>	<i>Second Middlesex</i>
<i>Jack Lewis</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>
<i>Barbara A. L'Italien</i>	<i>Second Essex and Middlesex</i>
<i>Chris Walsh</i>	<i>6th Middlesex</i>

HOUSE No. 235

By Ms. Decker of Cambridge, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 235) of Marjorie C. Decker and others for legislation to mandate recess for elementary school children. Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
(2017-2018)**

An Act to mandate recess for elementary school children.

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 1G of Chapter 69 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting at the end
2 thereof the following subsection:-

3 (1) All children in grades kindergarten through five attending public schools shall receive
4 one hundred minutes of supervised, safe, and unstructured free-play recess each week so that
5 there are at least twenty consecutive minutes of free-play recess per day. As used herein, the term
6 "free play" means an unstructured environment, but which is supervised by appropriate school
7 personnel or staff. Regulations promulgated by the department may not exclude recess from
8 structured learning time requirements for elementary school children and may not increase the
9 total number of hours required in the school year to meet the provisions of this subsection.