

HOUSE No. 2853

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Solomon Goldstein-Rose

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 promoting diversity and inclusion in education.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Solomon Goldstein-Rose</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>
<i>David M. Rogers</i>	<i>24th Middlesex</i>
<i>Bud Williams</i>	<i>11th Hampden</i>

HOUSE No. 2853

By Mr. Goldstein-Rose of Amherst, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2853) of Solomon Goldstein-Rose, David M. Rogers and Bud Williams for legislation to authorize educational inclusion advisors in public schools. Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to promoting diversity and inclusion in education.

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 69 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the following
2 section:-

3 Section 37. The department shall employ an educational inclusion advisor, hereinafter
4 referred to as advisor. The advisor shall provide resources, documents, websites, and other tools
5 for schools to learn about issues related to diversity, social justice, and inclusion in elementary
6 and secondary education. The advisor shall help each school committee, regional school district,
7 charter school or vocational school district create a plan for all employees of the public school,
8 regional school district, charter school or vocational school district to receive comprehensive
9 diversity and inclusion training. The advisor shall regularly communicate with every school and
10 provide compassionate, constructive suggestions for improving inclusion in the curriculum,
11 hiring practices, disciplinary practices, teacher evaluation systems, student testing and evaluation
12 systems, and any other appropriate areas.

13 The advisor shall review packaged curricula which may be purchased by a school, and
14 shall provide compassionate, constructive suggestions directly to companies that produce such
15 materials on ways to improve inclusion and representation of people of all backgrounds in such
16 materials.

17 SECTION 2. Chapter 71 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the following
18 section:-

19 Section 98. (a) As used in this section, the following words shall, unless context clearly
20 requires otherwise, have the following meanings:-

21 “Educator”, a teacher, principal, school administrator, district central office administrator,
22 paraprofessional, substitute teacher, bus driver, cafeteria worker, and any other public school
23 employee who has regular contact with students.

24 “Comprehensive diversity and inclusion training”, a training led by a current or retired
25 master educator, or education expert, who has direct and long-term experience with issues of
26 diversity, social justice, racial justice, inclusion of students of all abilities, genders, sexualities,
27 and romantic orientations, and consciousness regarding economic backgrounds.

28 (b) Subject to appropriation, every educator employed in a public school shall receive
29 comprehensive diversity and inclusion training. The training shall provide an educator with
30 information regarding: (i) institutional, historical, and accidental discrimination; (ii) systems of
31 violence and oppression; (iii) tools, techniques, and ideas for ensuring inclusion of students and
32 educators from all backgrounds; and (iv) resources for support inside and outside the school. The
33 training shall include information and suggestions related to the unique needs of students in that
34 district or school.

35 (c) The training shall occur prior to the first day of the first full school year of
36 employment for each educator at each school.

37 (d) Each school shall annually certify to the department of elementary and secondary
38 education that each educator employed by the school has received comprehensive diversity and
39 inclusion training.

40 SECTION 3. Training pursuant to section 2 for educators employed on the effective date
41 of this act shall occur within 1 year of the effective date of this act.