

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 289**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Robert M. Koczera***

*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 authorizing a study to institute a later start time to the school day.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Robert M. Koczera</i>	<i>11th Bristol</i>
<i>Marjorie C. Decker</i>	<i>25th Middlesex</i>
<i>Colleen M. Garry</i>	<i>36th Middlesex</i>
<i>Susan Williams Gifford</i>	<i>2nd Plymouth</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>
<i>Elizabeth A. Malia</i>	<i>11th Suffolk</i>
<i>David M. Rogers</i>	<i>24th Middlesex</i>
<i>Chris Walsh</i>	<i>6th Middlesex</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 289**

By Mr. Koczera of New Bedford, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 289) of Robert M. Koczera and others that the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education assemble a task force to study instituting a later start time to the school day. Education.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

An Act authorizing a study to institute a later start time to the school day.

*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 assemble an  
3 educational task force to conduct a comprehensive study relative to the issues, benefits, and  
4 options related to instituting a later start time to the school day for elementary and secondary  
5 schools in the Commonwealth. The task force shall comprise of, but not limited to: the  
6 secretary of education or a designee; the commissioner of elementary and secondary education or  
7 a designee; the executive director of the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents or  
8 a designee; the executive director of the Massachusetts Association of Elementary School  
9 Principals or a designee; the executive director of the Massachusetts Association of Secondary  
10 School Principals or a designee; the executive director of the Massachusetts Association of  
11 School Committees or a designee; the executive director of the Massachusetts Association of  
12 School Business Officials or a designee; the executive director of the Massachusetts Association

13 of Special Education Administrators or a designee; the executive director of the Massachusetts  
14 Teachers Association or a designee.

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16 The task force shall: (i) conduct a comprehensive study including, but not limited to, the  
17 impact of school start times on student academic performance, school scheduling issues,  
18 scientific and academic findings relative to the sleep needs of adolescents; (ii) schedule and hold  
19 public hearings throughout the Commonwealth to ensure public input and comment; and (iii)  
20 make reasonable attempts at obtaining comments and suggestions from common stakeholders,  
21 that may include teachers, students, parents of students, and education policy makers.

22 The task force shall file a report containing its findings and recommendations, including  
23 legislation necessary to carry out its recommendations, with the clerks of the House of  
24 Representatives and Senate and the Joint Committee on Education not later than 12 months  
25 following the first meeting of the task force.