

HOUSE No. 3549

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Angelo M. Scaccia (BY REQUEST)

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 bill:

An Act relative to civics education in schools.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Leo Sullivan

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

47 Washington Street
Hyde Park, MA 02136

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 554 OF 2007-2008.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT RELATIVE TO CIVICS 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:

1 SECTION 1. Section 2 of Chapter 71 of the General Laws is amended, in line 3, by striking the
2 words “in all public high schools” and inserting the words “from sixth to twelfth grade in all public
3 schools”; and is further amended in line 2, by inserting after the words “United States” the following:

4 “the articles of confederation, the history of the political climate that led to the American
5 Revolution, the federal structure which emphasizes the vertical separation of powers and the relationship
6 of the constitutions of the commonwealth and county”; and is further amended in line 7, by adding after
7 the words “duties of citizenship.” The following:

8 “Course material shall be taught as originally drafted with no intentional omissions of the
9 original intent of the founding fathers. The teaching of a revisionist form of history shall be considered
10 invalid.

11 “The successful completion of a course in civics during the twelfth grade year shall be
12 mandated as a requirement for all students in order to receive their high school diploma.

13 “SECTION 2. The department shall take all reasonable efforts to accomplish the establishment of
14 necessary regulations by June 30, 2010, in order that the provisions of this act may be implemented in the
15 following school year.”