

HOUSE No. 3556

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

David M. Rogers

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 relating to digital citizenship and media literacy in public schools.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>David M. Rogers</i>	<i>24th Middlesex</i>
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>
<i>Kenneth I. Gordon</i>	<i>21st Middlesex</i>
<i>Diana DiZoglio</i>	<i>14th Essex</i>
<i>Mike Connolly</i>	<i>26th Middlesex</i>
<i>Jeffrey N. Roy</i>	<i>10th Norfolk</i>
<i>David T. Vieira</i>	<i>3rd Barnstable</i>

HOUSE No. 3556

By Mr. Rogers of Cambridge, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3556) of David M. Rogers and others that the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education be authorized to developing best practices and recommendations for instruction in digital citizenship, internet safety, and media literacy. Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relating to digital citizenship and media literacy in public 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. Chapter 71 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the following
2 section:-

3 Section 98. (a) The following words, as used in this section, unless the context otherwise
4 requires or a different meaning is specifically prescribed, shall have the following meanings:

5 “Digital citizenship”, skills related to consumption and production of media, digital
6 products, current technology and social media use, including, but not limited to, model
7 appropriate, responsible, and healthy behavior and cyberbullying prevention.

8 “Media literacy”, the ability to access, analyze, evaluate, develop, produce, and interpret
9 media, and encompasses the foundational skills that lead to digital citizenship.

10 (b) (1)The department of elementary and secondary education shall identify best practices
11 and recommendations for instruction in digital citizenship and media literacy, and report to the

12 joint committee on education on strategies to implement the best practices and recommendations
13 statewide. The best practices and recommendations shall be developed in consultation with an
14 advisory committee, as established in paragraph (2). Best practices and recommendations shall
15 include provide: (i) guidance regarding thoughtful, safe, and strategic uses of online and other
16 media resources and (ii) educational methods to teach the application of critical-thinking skills
17 when consuming and producing media.

18 (2) The department of elementary and secondary education shall convene and consult an
19 advisory committee when developing best practices and recommendations for instruction in
20 digital citizenship, internet safety, and media literacy. The advisory committee shall include: (i)
21 experts in digital citizenship, internet safety and media literacy, including, but not limited to,
22 academic experts and state and national non-profit organizations; and (ii) other stakeholders,
23 including teacher-librarians, parent organizations, educators, and administrators.

24 Recommendations produced by the committee shall include, but shall not limited to: (i) revisions
25 to the state learning standards or the state educational technology plan; (ii) revisions to any
26 model policies and procedures regarding digital citizenship, internet safety, and media literacy
27 developed by educators, associations or other groups within the commonwealth, or by other
28 states or national groups; (iii) school district processes necessary to develop customized district
29 policies and procedures regarding electronic resources and internet safety to be used within a
30 district technology plan; (iv) best practices, resources, and models for instruction in digital
31 citizenship, internet safety, and media literacy; (v) best practices, resources, and models for
32 instruction of digital citizenship, including media literacy, that are compliant with federal E-rate
33 programs and the federal Children's Internet Protection Act; and (vi) strategies that will support
34 school districts in local implementation of the best practices and recommendations developed by

35 the department of elementary and secondary education, including strategies for delivering
36 professional development to educators and administrators.

37 (c) Each city, town, regional school district, charter school or vocational school district
38 shall annually review its policy and procedures on digital citizenship, internet safety, and media
39 literacy. In reviewing and amending the policy and procedures, the city, town, regional school
40 district, charter school or vocational school district shall: (1) consult a representation of parents
41 or guardians, teachers, teacher-librarians, other school employees, administrators, students, and
42 community representatives with experience or expertise in digital citizenship, internet safety, and
43 media literacy issues; (2) study the benefits of customizing any model policy and procedures
44 developed by the department of elementary and secondary education; (3) study existing school
45 resources; and (4) study best practices, resources, and models for instruction in digital
46 citizenship, internet safety, and media literacy, including methods to involve parents.

47 SECTION 2. The department of elementary and secondary education shall report to the
48 joint committee on education as provided in section 1 no later than 9 months after the effective
49 date of this act.