

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 364**

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

***Cheryl A. Coakley-Rivera***

*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 to improve quality physical education.**

PETITION OF:

NAME:

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*Cheryl A. Coakley-Rivera*

*10th Hampden*

*Tom Sannicandro*

*7th Middlesex*

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 364**

By Ms. Coakley-Rivera of Springfield, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 364) of Cheryl A. Coakley-Rivera and Tom Sannicandro for legislation to establish a physical education pilot program. Education.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION

SEE

□ HOUSE  
□ , NO. 2709 OF 2011-2012.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen**

An Act to improve quality physical 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. There is hereby established the Massachusetts Physical Education Pilot  
2 Program, in order to provide matching grants to not less than 6 public elementary, middle, or  
3 high schools across the commonwealth for the purpose of determining the potential for statewide  
4 expansion and enhancement of physical education in all public schools.

5 The department of elementary and secondary education shall oversee the administration  
6 of this grant, provided, that in awarding pilot grants, participating elementary schools that  
7 currently provide less than 60 minutes of physical education per week be required to provide not  
8 less than 120 minutes per week; provided further, that participating elementary schools that  
9 currently provide less than 120 minutes of physical education per week be required to provide  
10 not less than 150 minutes per week; provided further, that participating middle and high schools  
11 that currently provide less than 60 minutes of physical education per week be required to provide  
12 not less than 120 minutes per week; provided further, that participating middle and high schools  
13 that currently provide more than 120 minutes of physical education per week will be required to  
14 provide not less than 150 minutes per week, with the goal of reaching not less than 225 minutes

15 per week in 3 years; provided further, that pilot grantees shall not be penalized in any manner if a  
16 reasonable attempt has been made to provide the program to each student.

17 SECTION 2. Each potential pilot school shall be required to provide a proposed plan to  
18 the department of elementary and secondary education outlining how the school shall meet said  
19 requirements over a 3 year period; provided further, that grant applications shall include the  
20 delineation of any unmet funding needs including, but not limited to, additional program and  
21 personnel costs deemed necessary in order to conduct requirements of the pilot program. To the  
22 extent funds are available, the grant shall provide for such unmet funding needs.

23 SECTION 3. A Physical Education Advisory Commission shall be established to advise  
24 the commissioner of elementary and secondary education on all eligible applicants, and shall  
25 work in conjunction with the department of elementary and secondary education to review the  
26 pilot program.

27 The commission shall consist of the commissioners of elementary and secondary  
28 education and public health or each of their designees, 1 person to be appointed by the Senate  
29 President, 1 person to be appointed by the Speaker of the House and 3 persons to be appointed  
30 by the Governor, 1 of whom shall be a representative of the Massachusetts Physical Education,  
31 Health, Recreation and Dance Association (MAPHERD), 1 of whom shall be a representative of  
32 the American Heart Association, and 1 of whom shall be a representative of the American  
33 Diabetes Association.

34 The department of elementary and secondary education shall administer grants for the  
35 physical education pilot program and will work with the advisory committee in order to find  
36 matching funds from outside sources to support schools financial requests.

37 The department, working in conjunction with the Physical Education Pilot Advisory  
38 Commission shall evaluate the pilot program and report its preliminary findings by July 1, 2014  
39 to the General Court, and shall present a final report to the General Court by July 31, 2016.