

HOUSE No. 474

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Elizabeth Poirier

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 the incorporation of civics in the high school curriculum.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Elizabeth Poirier	14th Bristol
F. Jay Barrows	1st Bristol
Richard J. Ross	9th Norfolk
Bruce E. Tarr	First Essex and Middlesex
Paul K. Frost	7th Worcester

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 522 OF 2007-2008.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE INCORPORATION OF CIVICS IN THE HIGH SCHOOL CURRICULUM.

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 2 of chapter 71 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2002 Official Edition, is hereby
- 2 amended by adding the following paragraph:—
- 3 The board of education shall establish criteria for awarding a diploma seal for excellence in civics
- 4 education, based on understanding of the state and federal constitutions and the democratic model of
- 5 government for the standard and advanced studies diplomas. The board shall consider criteria for
- 6 successful completion of history, government and civics course (including courses incorporating
- 7 character education); voluntary participation in community service or extracurricular activities; and
- 8 related requirements.