

HOUSE No. 477

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Tom Sannicandro

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 interrupting the school to prison pipeline.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Tom Sannicandro</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>
<i>Marjorie C. Decker</i>	<i>25th Middlesex</i>
<i>Carolyn C. Dykema</i>	<i>8th Middlesex</i>

HOUSE No. 477

By Mr. Sannicandro of Ashland, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 477) of Tom Sannicandro, Marjorie C. Decker and Carolyn C. Dykema relative to the transportation and treatment of certain students who are suspended or expelled from school. Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court
(2015-2016)**

An Act interrupting the school to prison pipeline.

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. Whereas, Massachusetts’ out of school student suspension rate is 4.3% in
2 2012-13, yet blacks students were at risk 10.0%, Latino students were at risk 8.4%, and students
3 with disabilities were at risk 8.5%

4

5 Therefore, the new Chapter 222 “Student Discipline” Law (M.G.L. c. 71, § 37H ¾) is
6 amended to insure that Emergency Removal of suspended/expelled students are safe, healthy and
7 have appropriate transportation.

8

9 SECTION 2. Section 37H ¾ of Chapter 71 as appearing in the 2014 Official Edition of
10 the General Laws is hereby amended by adding after paragraph (f) the following paragraph:-

11

12 (g) Students who are suspended or expelled in an emergency situation shall be kept safe
13 and have transportation that is provided directly by the school district and not by another agency
14 so that the chain of custody is not interrupted or broken. If the student qualifies for meals, meals
15 must be provided by the school district prior to emergency removal.

16

17 SECTION 3. The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education shall promulgate
18 regulations relative to paragraph (g) of Section 37H ³/₄ of Chapter 71.