

SENATE No. 342

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Bruce E. Tarr

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 to provide child exploitation awareness education.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Bruce E. Tarr

Diana DiZoglio

Joan B. Lovely

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

First Essex and Middlesex

14th Essex

Second Essex

SENATE No. 342

By Mr. Tarr, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 342) of Bruce E. Tarr, Diana DiZoglio and Joan B. Lovely for legislation to provide child exploitation awareness education. Education.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 274 OF 2013-2014.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act to provide child exploitation awareness 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. Chapter 71 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding after section
2 2 the following new section:

3 Section 2D. The advisory council on violence prevention established by section 1G of
4 chapter 15 of the General Laws shall recommend for approval by the board of education a model
5 curriculum for grades two through eight, inclusive in Child Exploitation Awareness Education.
6 For the purposes of this section, the phrase “child exploitation” shall include child abduction or
7 child sexual abuse.

8 1) School districts shall incorporate the content of child exploitation awareness education
9 guidelines that is age appropriate into the existing health curriculum framework for students in
10 second grade through eighth grade, inclusive.

11 2) Child exploitation awareness education may include, but need not be limited to,
12 defining child exploitation, recognizing types of child exploitation and creating awareness of
13 warning signs of child exploitation.

14 3) In order to assist school districts, the advisory council, in consultation with at least one
15 organization addressing child exploitation, shall develop model guidelines that school districts
16 shall incorporate into an existing health curriculum. The department shall also provide age-
17 appropriate educational materials regarding child exploitation awareness for the purpose of
18 assisting school districts in preparing an instructional program on child exploitation awareness.
19 The department may use educational materials that are already publicly available for this
20 purpose.

21 4) A parent or legal guardian of a participating student, within a reasonable period of time
22 after the request is made, shall be permitted to examine the child exploitation awareness
23 education program instructional materials at the school in which the students is enrolled.

24 5) At the request of a parent or guardian, a student shall be excused from all or parts of
25 the child exploitation awareness educational program. The principal shall notify all parents or
26 guardians of their ability to withdraw their children from instruction in the program by returning
27 a signed opt-out form, after the parent or guardian has reviewed the instructional materials.

28 6) The department shall require yearly certification and training to all educational staff
29 and consultants using digital means, and or in a classroom setting. Such training shall address
30 child sexual assault, sex offender profile training, healthy sexual behavioral training,
31 requirements of mandated reporters, and how to report.