

**SENATE . . . . . No. 348**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Michael F. Rush***

*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 relative to parental notification in public schools .

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Michael F. Rush</i>	<i>Norfolk and Suffolk</i>	
<i>Paul McMurtry</i>	<i>11th Norfolk</i>	<i>2/8/2023</i>

**SENATE . . . . . No. 348**

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By Mr. Rush, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 348) of Michael F. Rush and Paul  
McMurtry for legislation relative to parental notification in public schools. Education.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court  
(2023-2024)**  
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An Act relative to parental notification 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 Chapter 71 of the General Laws is hereby amended in Section 48A in line 1 by inserting  
2 before the word “School”, the following:- “(a)”

3 Chapter 71 of the General Laws is hereby amended in Section 48A by inserting in line 22  
4 after the word “section”, the following:-

5 (b) Parental Notification of Law Enforcement Action on School Grounds

6 Section 1. Definitions

7 For the purpose of this section the following words shall have the following meanings

8 "School grounds", the real property comprising an active and operational elementary or  
9 secondary school during the regular hours in which school is in session and when students are  
10 present.

11 "School resource officer", a duly sworn municipal police officer with all necessary  
12 training, up-to-date certificates, including special school resource officer certification as required  
13 by subsection (b) of section 3 of chapter 6E or a special officer appointed by the chief of police  
14 charged with: (i) providing law enforcement; (ii) promoting school safety and security services  
15 to elementary and secondary public schools; and (iii) maintaining a positive school climate for  
16 all students, families and staff.

17 Section 2.

18 If local or state law enforcement is called to school grounds to make arrests or engage in  
19 activity to ensure the safety of students or faculty beyond the regular duties undertaken by that  
20 school's school resource officer, the principal of that school or superintendent of that school  
21 district or a designee of said principal or superintendent shall make a report by mail, electronic  
22 mail, or phone call of the incident to the parents of students who attend the school within twenty-  
23 four hours of the initial call to law enforcement. This report shall include the following  
24 information:

25 i.) The time at which law enforcement was called to the school.

26 ii.) The reason for which law enforcement was called, omitting any information which  
27 could be used to identify specific students or faculty.

28 iii.) The time at which law enforcement officers left school grounds.

29 The report shall not include any information which could be used to identify any specific  
30 student or faculty member of the school.

31 Section 3.

32           This Section shall not limit the authority of a law enforcement officer to make an arrest  
33 on school grounds. This Section shall not delay action by law enforcement officers in  
34 circumstances that would cause a reasonable person to believe that urgent and immediate action  
35 is necessary to do any of the following:

36           i.) Prevent bodily harm or injury to the student or any other person

37           ii.) Apprehend an armed or fleeing suspect

38           iii.) Prevent the destruction of evidence

39           iv.) Address an emergency or other dangerous situation

40           (c.) This Act shall take effect upon passage.