

HOUSE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Marie P. St. Fleur

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 Establish the Afterschool and Out-of-School Time Coordinating Council.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Marie P. St. Fleur

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

5th Suffolk

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE AFTERSCHOOL AND OUT-OF-SCHOOL TIME COORDINATING COUNCIL.

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 15 of the Massachusetts General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 65
2 the following section:

3 Section 66

4 There is established within the Executive Office of Education a Massachusetts Afterschool and
5 Out-Of-School Time Coordinating Council, which shall not be subject to the control of the
6 Executive Office of Education except as provided by this section. The purpose of the council
7 shall be to improve and increase the access of children and youth to positive development
8 opportunities in their non-school hours. The council shall review existing state and local
9 programs and policies and make recommendations to strengthen afterschool and out-of-school
10 time programs. Efforts of the council shall include, but not be limited to; exploration of new
11 revenue streams at federal, state, municipal and private levels to increase access and quality of
12 programs; creation of a centralized on-line listing of federal, state, local and private funding;
13 increasing public awareness of the importance of afterschool and out-of-school time programs;
14 improving quality and building support throughout the workforce; creating a workforce
15 development program based on national models; fostering partnerships and collaborations;

16 increasing access to programs and encouraging public and private support that will work to build
17 a sustainable infrastructure for afterschool and out-of-school time programs.

18 The council shall consist of twenty-one members appointed by the governor, including the
19 Secretary of Education, who shall act as co-chair, state and municipal representatives from
20 public safety, family and youth services, libraries, parks and recreation departments, art,
21 workforce development, higher education, as well as leaders from public and private schools,
22 community and faith based afterschool and out-of-school time programs, youth representatives,
23 private funders, the business community and parents; eight members appointed by the
24 Legislature including; 1 member appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives who
25 shall act as co-chair, 1 member appointed by the senate president who shall act as co-chair, the
26 chairs of the house and senate committees on ways and means or their designees, the house and
27 senate chairs of the joint committee on education or their designees, the house and senate chairs
28 of the joint committee on children and families or their designees.

29 Of the members appointed by the governor hereunder, seven shall be appointed for a term of one
30 year, four for a term of two years, four for a term of three years, three for a term of four years
31 and three for a term of five years. Upon expiration of the term of a member appointed by the
32 governor, his successor shall be appointed in a like manner for a term of five years.

33 The council shall meet as often as deemed necessary by the co-chairs or a majority of the
34 council, but shall not meet less frequently than 6 times a year. The Secretary of the Executive
35 Office of Education shall appoint personnel necessary to coordinate the activities of the council,
36 and provide administrative support to the council, as requested. The council shall, (1) develop,
37 coordinate and implement a state afterschool and out-of-school time system, including aligning
38 the efforts of the department of elementary and secondary education; the department early
39 education and care; (2) make recommendations regarding any state legislation and regulations
40 that would affect the afterschool and out-of-school time system of the Commonwealth in light of
41 the goals of the council and, (3) prepare and submit an annual progress report to the Governor,
42 the Joint Committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities, and the Joint
43 Committee on Education, concerning the council's activities with appropriate recommendations
44 concerning afterschool and out-of-school time programs.