

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

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

**Creem, Cynthia (SEN)**

*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 authorizing a study of starting times and schedules**

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Creem, Cynthia (SEN)

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

First Middlesex and Norfolk

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE SENATE, NO. S00308 OF 2007-2008.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the Year Two Thousand and Nine**

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**AN ACT AUTHORIZING A STUDY OF STARTING TIMES AND SCHEDULES**

*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. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the department of  
2 education is hereby authorized and directed to conduct a comprehensive study relative to the affect  
3 which high school starting times have on the academic performance of students. Said study shall  
4 include, but not be limited to, a survey of high school starting times and the duration of high school  
5 academic hours throughout the commonwealth, and shall make findings relative to the affect which  
6 high school starting times have on student academic performance. Provided further, that such study  
7 shall make recommendations relative to whether high school starting times should be scheduled later in  
8 the morning, and how school districts can adapt school day starting times to enhance student  
9 education. Said study shall also review and make recommendations relative to other school day  
10 scheduling issues which affect high school starting times. Said department, in the conduct of said study  
11 shall examine relevant scientific studies and academic research, and shall request comment and  
12 suggestions from students, teachers, and education policy makers, provided further, that said

13 department shall conduct no less than two public hearings to ensure public input and comment. A copy  
14 of said study shall be filed with the senate and house clerks and the senate and house chairmen of the  
15 Joint Committee on Education not later than six months after the enactment of this act.