

By Mr. Ambler of Weymouth, petition of Robert B. Ambler, J. Michael Ruane, Richard L. Walsh, Charles N. Decas and William F. Galvin relative to instructional programs on the nature and effects of alcohol and alcoholism in the schools of the Commonwealth. Education.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty-Two.

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**AN ACT CONCERNING INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS ON THE NATURE AND EFFECTS OF ALCOHOL AND ALCOHOLISM AND PROGRAMS RELATIVE TO ALCOHOL-RELATED PROBLEMS IN 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     **SECTION 1.** Section 1 of Chapter 71 of the General Laws, as  
2 most recently amended by Chapter 916 of the Acts of 1977, is  
3 hereby further amended by adding the following at the end of said  
4 section 1:—

5     The nature of alcohol drinks and narcotics and their effects upon  
6 the human system shall be taught in all schools supported wholly  
7 or in part by public moneys in such manner as may be adapted to  
8 the age and understanding of the pupils and shall be emphasized in  
9 appropriate places of the curriculum sufficiently for a full and  
10 adequate treatment of the subject. The Commissioner of the De-  
11 partment of Education shall with the approval of the State Board  
12 of Education and in consultation with the Division of Alcoholism  
13 of the Department of Public Health, prepare and update as neces-  
14 sary curriculum guide-lines to assist school committees in fulfilling  
15 this requirement. Each school committee shall make provisions in  
16 its annual educational program to fulfill this requirement and with  
17 respect to the requirement concerning the teaching of the nature of  
18 alcoholic drinks and their effects upon the human system, each  
19 committee shall consult with a local organization involved with the  
20 prevention, detection, and treatment of alcoholism approved by

21 the Division of Alcoholism. Each school committee shall adopt  
22 and implement, in accordance with rules and regulations promul-  
23 gated by the State board, policies and procedures for the evalua-  
24 tion and treatment of pupils involved in incidents of possession or  
25 consumption of alcoholic beverages on school property or at  
26 school functions, or who show significant symptoms of intoxifica-  
27 tion or of alcoholism on school property or at school functions. In  
28 adopting and implementing these policies and procedures, the  
29 board shall consult and work closely with a local organization  
30 involved with the prevention, detection and treatment of alcohol-  
31 ism approved by the Division of Alcoholism.

32 The commissioner of the Department of Education shall make  
33 an in-depth study of the incidence of consumption of alcoholic  
34 beverages by school pupils and the degree to which consumption of  
35 alcoholic beverages by school pupils is causing educational, disci-  
36 plinary or other problems for school districts, and of the effective-  
37 ness of current laws and regulations relative to the teaching of the  
38 nature and effects of alcoholic beverages and the training of teach-  
39 ers with respect to the nature and effects of alcoholic beverages.  
40 Based upon the study and after consultation with the commission-  
41 er, the State board shall establish a comprehensive plan designed to  
42 insure that effective instructional programs on the nature of alco-  
43 holic beverages and their effects upon the human body, and on the  
44 physiological, psychological and sociological effects of alcoholism,  
45 and effective programs for handling pupils who are involved in  
46 incidents of possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages, or  
47 who show significant symptoms of intoxication or of alcoholism,  
48 on school property or at school functions, are provided in the  
49 public schools. The plan shall provide for, but is not limited to: —  
50 a. Goals, objectives and standards for alcohol education;  
51 b. Identification of appropriate places in the curriculum and  
52 appropriate grade levels for effective alcohol education;  
53 c. Preparation and updating of curriculum guidelines;  
54 d. General qualifications for all teachers in public schools to  
55 insure that all teachers are adequately trained in and aware of the  
56 nature and effects of alcoholic beverages and alcoholism so that  
57 they may identify alcohol-related problems in pupils and assist in  
58 resolving alcohol-related problems in the schools or in providing  
59 effective alcohol education;

60 e. Specific qualifications for teachers providing instruction in  
61 the nature and effects of alcohol and alcoholism;

62 f. Appropriate in-service training programs for teachers to pro-  
63 vide them with the opportunity to meet the general or specific  
64 qualification requirements under the plan within a reasonable  
65 period of time after it takes effect, and to maintain their proficiency  
66 and update their knowledge relative to alcohol education as neces-  
67 sary;

68 g. Guidelines for policies and procedures of boards of education  
69 for handling pupils involved in alcohol-related incidents or with  
70 alcohol-related problems;

71 h. A uniform system for the collection of data on incidents  
72 involving possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages, and  
73 on pupils with alcohol-related problems, on school property or at  
74 school functions.

75 In making the study and preparing and implementing the plan,  
76 the commissioner and the State board shall consult and work  
77 closely with the Division of Alcoholism. The study and plan shall  
78 be completed within 3 years after the effective date of this Act, and  
79 shall be submitted to the Governor and the Legislature.

1 SECTION 2. This Act shall take effect upon its acceptance by a  
2 city, town, or district under the provisions of section 4 of Chapter 4  
3 of the General Laws.

The first part of the document is a list of names and titles, including:
   
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