

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 445**

---

---

By Representative Hall of Westford and Senator Panagiotakos, joint petition of Geoffrey D. Hall and Steven C. Panagiotakos relative to changes to the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) exam for public school students. Education.

---

---

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

\_\_\_\_\_  
In the Year Two Thousand and Seven.  
\_\_\_\_\_

AN ACT RELATIVE TO CHANGES TO THE MASSACHUSETTS COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT SYSTEM EXAM.

*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 69 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2002 Official  
2 Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after section II thereof the  
3 following new section:—  
4 Section 11½. Notwithstanding any general or special law or any  
5 rule or regulation to the contrary, the department shall reimburse  
6 each public school district in a city and town for any and all costs  
7 incurred by said district to purchase new textbooks and instructional  
8 support materials, for the development of new curriculum and pro-  
9 grams of studies and for conducting professional training of teachers  
10 and administrators and other support personnel as a result of any  
11 change made by the board or the department in the curriculum  
12 frameworks or the content area of the MCAS exam, or any other  
13 statewide examination, mandated by said board or department.  
14 The department and board must give advance written notification  
15 to the superintendent of each school district in each city and town, at  
16 least three years prior to, of their intention to change any curriculum  
17 frameworks or the change in the content area of the MCAS exam, or  
18 any other statewide examination, mandated by said board or depart-  
19 ment before any such change may become effective.  
20 Any change in the curriculum frameworks or the change in the  
21 content area of the MCAS exam, or any other statewide examina-  
22 tion, mandated by said board or department shall be subject to the  
23 provisions of Section 6B of Chapter 11 and Section 27C of Chapter

24 29 of the General Laws to determine if the implementation of any  
25 such change shall have a “significant financial impact”, as defined in  
26 said Section 6B, on any city or town prior to any such change going  
27 into effect.