

HOUSE No. 476

By Mr. Kaufman of Lexington, petition of Jay R. Kaufman and others relative to the membership of the Board of Education. Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PETITION OF:

Jay R. Kaufman	Mary E. Grant
David Paul Linsky	Carl M. Sciortino, Jr.
John D. Keenan	Denise Provost
Matthew C. Patrick	William N. Brownsberger
Pamela P. Resor	Gloria L. Fox
J. James Marzilli, Jr.	Joyce A. Spiliotis
Frank I. Smizik	Patricia D. Jehlen
Susan C. Fargo	John W. Scibak

In the Year Two Thousand and Seven.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO BOARD OF EDUCATION REFORM.

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 1E of Chapter 15 of the General Laws as appearing in the
2 2000 Official Edition, is amended by striking lines 1 through 24, and
3 line 25 through the sentence ending “shall not be counted as a full
4 term” and replacing them with the following:—
5 There shall be in the department a board of public education in
6 this section and in Sections one F and one G called the board, which
7 shall consist of fifteen members with a demonstrated expertise in
8 and commitment to a vital and vibrant public education system and
9 reflecting and representative of the population of students in the
10 Commonwealth’s public schools. The board will be ethnically,
11 racially, economically and politically diverse and represent the
12 diverse geographic regions of the Commonwealth and the different
13 perspectives and needs of urban, rural and suburban school districts.
14 It will include representation from students, teachers, principals, and
15 superintendents as well as representative local officials, business
16 leaders, higher education administrators, and educational policy
17 experts. In making appointments to the board, the governor shall

18 appoint the chancellor of higher education, two representatives of
19 business or industry, one member chosen from a list of three names
20 provided by each of the following: the Massachusetts Teachers
21 Association, the Massachusetts Federation of Teachers, the Massa-
22 chusetts Association of School Committees, the Massachusetts
23 Association of School Superintendents, the Massachusetts Associa-
24 tion of Secondary School Administrators, the Massachusetts Associ-
25 ation of Elementary School Administrators, the Massachusetts
26 Municipal Association, and the student advisory council established
27 under this section; and four additional members selected by the gov-
28 ernor. One third of the members appointed upon passage of this
29 section shall serve an initial term of three years; one third shall serve
30 an initial term of four years; and one third shall serve an initial term
31 of five years. Thereafter, members shall serve for a period of three
32 years. No person shall be appointed to serve more than two full
33 terms, provided, however, that service on or before passage of this
34 section shall not be counted for this purpose. Section 1G of said
35 Chapter 15 shall be amended by adding the following in line 2 after
36 “the following areas:”

37 civics; lifelong learning; and further adding after line 25:—

38 The advisory council on civics shall include current and retired
39 community leaders as business and academic leaders with demon-
40 strated experience of and commitment to civic engagement and com-
41 munity empowerment. The council shall advise the board on
42 programs and initiatives to promote an understanding and apprecia-
43 tion of our democratic institutions and traditions, and to promote
44 school-based programs to encourage an informed an engaged citi-
45 zenry.

46 The advisory council on lifelong learning shall include higher
47 education, business and community leaders with demonstrated
48 scholarship or creativity in, or distinguished experience of and
49 service to, lifelong learning. The council shall advise the board on
50 the development and implementation of school- and community-
51 based programs and initiatives to encourage and empower students
52 to continue learning as adults and to sponsor opportunities for life-
53 long learning.