

HOUSE No. 596

By Ms. Wolf of Cambridge, petition of Alice K. Wolf and others relative to the membership of the Board of Education. Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PETITION OF:

Alice K. Wolf Patricia D. Jehlen
Edward M. Augustus, Jr. Carl M. Sciortino, Jr.
Barbara A. L'Italien Susan C. Fargo
Anthony J. Verga

In the Year Two Thousand and Seven.

AN ACT REFORMING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

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 2004 Official Edition, is amended by striking the first 7 sentences of
3 the first paragraph, through "term." and inserting in place thereof
4 the following: —

5 There shall be a board of education, in this section and in Sections
6 1F and 1G called the board, which shall consist of a chairman and
7 12 members, including the chairman of the student advisory council
8 established under this section; the chancellor of higher education;
9 the commissioner of early education and care; 1 representative of a
10 labor organization selected by the governor from a list of 3 nominees
11 provided by the Massachusetts State Labor Council, AFL-CIO; 1
12 representative of parents of school children selected by the governor
13 from a list of 3 nominees provided by the Massachusetts Parent
14 Teachers Association; and 7 additional members appointed by the
15 governor, 1 of whom shall be a teacher, 1 of whom shall be an
16 administrator and 1 of whom shall be a representative of business or
17 industry with a demonstrated commitment to education.

18 In making such appointments, the governor shall seek to appoint
19 persons who are ethnically, racially, and economically diverse and
20 represent the diverse geographic regions of the commonwealth, and

21 who are familiar with the differing interests, perspectives and needs
22 of urban, rural and suburban school districts. The members
23 appointed shall be committed to the academic and all-around
24 achievement of all children and young people in the commonwealth
25 and to true equal-educational opportunity.

26 The Governor shall appoint a chairman and 4 additional members
27 to serve an initial term of 4 years; 1 member to serve an initial term
28 of 3 years; 1 member to serve an initial term of 2 years; and 1
29 member to serve an initial term of 1 year. Thereafter, members shall
30 serve for a period of 4 years and no appointed member shall serve
31 more than 2 terms. A member appointed to fill a vacancy for an
32 unexpired term of a member who has vacated a seat on the board
33 shall serve the remainder of the term vacated and may be reap-
34 pointed for 1 additional term.

35 The terms of the current appointed members of the board of edu-
36 cation upon passage of this act, excluding the representative of the
37 Massachusetts State Labor Council, AFL-CIO and the parent repre-
38 sentative of the Massachusetts Parent Teachers Association, shall
39 expire 30 days after the passage of this act. Not more than two
40 appointive members of said board shall be employed on a full-time
41 basis by any agency of the Commonwealth.