

SENATE No. 56

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Joan M. Menard

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 to promote healthy behaviors.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Joan M. Menard

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

First Bristol and Plymouth

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. S00096 OF 2007-2008.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT TO PROMOTE HEALTHY BEHAVIORS.

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. Chapter 111 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after
2 section 24J, the following section:- Section 24K. The department shall establish a program of
3 community based health and sexuality education services provided by comprehensive family
4 planning agencies. Said program shall be designed to promote healthy behaviors among
5 adolescents and/or guardians by providing science based health information and education.

6 Community based health education staff shall promote healthy behaviors within the community
7 by providing specialized education and outreach to targeted high risk populations, parents and
8 guardians and to staff of community based agencies providing services to young people. Said
9 specialized education and outreach program shall include efforts to reduce unintended
10 pregnancy; promote abstinence in order to delay adolescent sexual activity; increase parental
11 ability to communicate with their children about healthy sexuality; and reduce unhealthy risk
12 taking behavior among all individuals.

- 13 For the purposes of the section, comprehensive family planning agencies shall be defined
- 14 pursuant to section 24E of this chapter.