

HEALTHY YOUTH ACT

PLEASE SUPPORT S.268/H.544

We can't let another school year start without guidelines in place to ensure students learn the crucial health and safety education they need to thrive.

Erasing certain kinds of information from the curriculum doesn't stop the students who need that information from existing - it hurts all students. The **Healthy Youth Act** ensures that only **sex and relationship education that is high-quality and inclusive** is taught in our public schools, while:



Supporting schools in retaining **local control** to select curriculum and instructional materials and to determine the age that sex and relationship education begins



Allowing parents the **option** to review the curriculum and opt their child out of instruction



Collecting **data** on the sexual health education being offered in schools and keeping the Massachusetts Comprehensive Health Curriculum Framework updated

92%

OF LIKELY VOTERS IN MASSACHUSETTS BELIEVE THAT ALL STUDENTS HAVE THE RIGHT TO RECEIVE SEX ED IN HIGH SCHOOL.

That's because this kind of education protects young people against bullying and abuse, helps them develop healthy relationship skills, and improves their academic performance.

The urgent need to pass the Healthy Youth Act:

These conversations are not always happening at home.

60%

of MA high schoolers don't talk to their parents about sex or sexuality.

Rates of STIs like chlamydia and gonorrhea are rising.

50%

of sexually active MA high schoolers don't use condoms.

The needs of LGBTQ+ students are not being met.

82%

of LGBTQ+ MA high schoolers don't receive LGBTQ-inclusive sex ed.

YOUNG PEOPLE IN MASSACHUSETTS DESERVE BETTER.

Sponsored by Sen. Sal DiDomenico, Rep. Jim O'Day, & Rep. Vanna Howard

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