

HOUSE DOCKET, NO.

XXXXX

FILED ON: 09/22/2011

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 03720**

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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PRESENTED BY:

*Alice Hanlon Peisch*

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*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 the successful transition of students with disabilities to post-secondary education, employment, and independent living.

\_\_\_\_\_

PETITION OF:

NAME:

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

\_\_\_\_\_

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 03720

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By Ms. Peisch of Wellesley, for the committee on Education, on House, No. 159, a Bill to promote the successful transition of students with disabilities to post-secondary education, employment, and independent living (House, No. 3720). September 22, 2011.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the Year Two Thousand Eleven  
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An Act to promote the successful transition of students with disabilities to post-secondary education, employment, and independent living.

*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 71 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 38G  
2 section 38G ½, regarding Transition Specialist Endorsement:-

3 Section 38G 1/2. Endorsement

4 Section 1. As used in this section, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

5 “Board”, the board of elementary and secondary education established by chapter fifteen

6 “Department”, the department of elementary and secondary education established by chapter

7 fifteen

8 “Transition Services”, as defined in 20 USC 1401 (34)

9 Section 2. The board shall provide a specialist teacher endorsement in transition services which  
10 shall include both coursework and field experience for previously licensed special education  
11 teachers and rehabilitation counselors to develop the competence necessary to serve as transition  
12 coordinators to facilitate provision of a coordinated set of activities to adequately prepare  
13 students with disabilities to achieve successful transition to post-school activities including  
14 further education, competitive employment, and independent living. The requirements for the  
15 specialist teacher endorsement in transition services, as promulgated by the board, can also be  
16 used to satisfy course requirements necessary to obtain a professional license. The board shall  
17 promulgate regulations specifying the subject matter, knowledge, skills, and competencies  
18 required for such endorsement, including requirements to incorporate renewal of the  
19 endorsement as part of the individual professional development plan required pursuant to section  
20 38G. Said regulations shall also specify components necessary for preparation programs  
21 offering a specialist teacher endorsement in transition services, which shall be included in the  
22 department's process for approving preparation programs.

23 SECTION 2. For one year after the board of elementary and secondary education has  
24 promulgated regulations as required under section 38G ½ of chapter 71 of the General Laws,  
25 individuals who have previously been employed serving as transition coordinators and  
26 coordinating school-based transition services shall be eligible to receive a transition specialist  
27 endorsement, provided that they demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and competencies necessary  
28 to receive such endorsement, subject to regulations promulgated by the board.

29 SECTION 3. The board of elementary and secondary education shall promulgate the  
30 regulations required pursuant to section 38G ½ of chapter 71 of the General Laws on or before  
31 June 1, 2012.