

HOUSE No. 1886

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Christine P. Barber

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 adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act requiring the Department of Public Health to issue a report on vision screening for children.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Christine P. Barber</i>	<i>34th Middlesex</i>
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>
<i>David M. Rogers</i>	<i>24th Middlesex</i>
<i>Sean Garballey</i>	<i>23rd Middlesex</i>
<i>Sal N. DiDomenico</i>	<i>Middlesex and Suffolk</i>
<i>Ruth B. Balsler</i>	<i>12th Middlesex</i>
<i>Carmine L. Gentile</i>	<i>13th Middlesex</i>
<i>Patricia D. Jehlen</i>	<i>Second Middlesex</i>
<i>Michelle M. DuBois</i>	<i>10th Plymouth</i>
<i>Alice Hanlon Peisch</i>	<i>14th Norfolk</i>

HOUSE No. 1886

By Ms. Barber of Somerville, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1886) of Christine P. Barber and others for legislation to direct the Department of Public Health to compile data and issue a report on vision screening for children entering kindergarten. Public Health.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court
(2015-2016)**

An Act requiring the Department of Public Health to issue a report on vision screening for children.

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:

2 The department of public health shall issue a report relating to vision screening for
3 children entering kindergarten. For the purposes of this report, vision screening shall refer to the
4 requirements in Section 57 of Chapter 71 of Massachusetts General Laws.

5 Such report shall include the following information:

6 (1) The number of children entering kindergarten, or within 30 days of start of school
7 year, whose parents presented to school health personnel documentation that within the past 12
8 months the child passed a vision screen;

9 (2) The number of children who received a comprehensive eye examination report from a
10 licensed optometrist or ophthalmologist, including diagnosis and treatment plan, documenting

11 examination results performed due to either a failed vision screening or diagnosis of
12 neurodevelopmental delay.

13 The report shall include data from all public and private schools. The report shall not
14 include the names of any individuals and shall be subject to privacy standards pursuant to Public
15 Law 104-191 and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996.

16 A copy of said report shall be filed with the senate and house clerks, the senate and house
17 chairs of the joint committee on public health and published in a clearly visible location on the
18 department of public health's website not later than six months after the effective date of this act.