

Prevention First Coalition

An Act Relative to Healthy Youth (H. 1063/S. 190)

When Schools Offer Sex Education, Let's Get It Right Giving Young People the Facts They Need to Make Healthy, Responsible Decisions about Sex and Relationships

Many public school districts in Massachusetts include sexuality education in the curriculum; others do not. These are local decisions based on local resources and priorities. When public schools do provide such education, however, it should be done right. It should be comprehensive, medically accurate, and age-appropriate. This bill would make sure that's what students receive.

“An Act Relative to Healthy Youth” WILL:

- Leave to local school boards and schools all decisions about whether to teach sexuality education.
- Leave to parents the choice about whether their children participate in school-based sexuality education.
- Ensure that school districts that choose to provide sexuality education do so in an age-appropriate, medically accurate way.
- Ensure that school districts that choose to provide sexuality education include information about *both* abstinence and contraception.

“An Act Relative to Healthy Youth” does NOT:

- It does NOT require schools to provide sexuality education.
 - It does NOT interfere with local control.
 - It does NOT take abstinence education out of sexuality education.
 - It does NOT dictate the age or grade level when sexuality education should begin.
 - It does NOT interfere with parents' right to opt out their children from participating in sexuality education programs.
 - It does NOT cost any more money.
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