Healthy Youth Act

An Act Relative to Healthy Youth || S. 2534. H. 673

Youth deserve comprehensive health education.

The Healthy Youth Act will give Massachusetts students the foundation they need and deserve to lead healthy lives. The legislation will:

- Require schools that offer sex ed to use medically accurate, age-appropriate information.
- Focus on building healthy relationships and discuss consent and boundaries.
- Ensure that material is inclusive of LGBTQIA+ identities and experiences.

because medically-accurate education creates safer futures for us all.

Massachusetts voters agree:

92% believe students should receive sex education in high school.

89% believe sex ed should cover how students can stay healthy if they become sexually active.

- 10% of high school students experienced sexual contact against their will
- 6.9% of high school students experienced physical dating violence in the past year (17.7% for lesbian, gay, and bisexual identifying youth)
- 20.5% of high school students had their activity monitored by someone they were dating

Comprehensive sex education curricula is proven to help young people:

- build healthy relationships,
- delay sex, and
- prevent STIs and prevent unintended pregnancies when they do become sexually active.

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Healthy Youth Act

because LGBTQ+ inclusive education creates safer futures for us all.

6 in 10 LGBTQ students reported feeling unsafe at school because of their sexual orientation. Nationally, only 8.2% of students reported receiving LGBTQ-inclusive sex ed.

82% 86%
82% of LGBTQ high school students in MA do not learn about LGBTQ sexual health in their school classes. In 2019, more than 8 in 10 LGBTQ students experienced harassment or assault at school.

LGBTQ-inclusive curriculum gives students a greater sense of safety and belonging. According to the GLSEN School Climate Survey (2019), students that receive inclusive curriculum:
• hear less derogatory comments,
• experience less bullying,
• attend school more often, and
• perform better academically.

The Healthy Youth Act Coalition

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