

An Act to cancel the administration of the MCAS for the 2020-2021 school year

MTA Legislative Agenda, 2021-2022

Lead Sponsors: Rep. Jim Hawkins (D-Attleboro) | Senator Jo Comerford (D-Northampton)

This legislation would cancel the 2021 Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) due to the disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The use of standardized testing in public schools has long raised concerns. In light of the disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, waiving high-stakes standardized testing requirements is especially urgent now.

This legislation would require the commissioner of elementary and secondary education to request a waiver of federal testing requirements from the U.S. Department of Education. Following the successful receipt of that waiver, the bill further requires the Commonwealth to waive the MCAS test requirement in all grades.

Please join the already overwhelming number of parents, legislators, educators and school committee members in opposing MCAS testing this year.

Passing An Act to cancel the administration of the MCAS for the 2020-2021 school year means:

- Providing more time and resources to students and prioritizing genuine learning during this difficult time.
- Relieving stress and anxiety among students and families, and in our schools, during an already tumultuous year.