

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR ERIN MURPHY



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO THE BALLOT MEASURE TO ELIMINATE THE MCAS GRADUATION REQUIREMENT

WHEREAS, This November election, there will be a question on the ballot addressing the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) graduation requirement.; *and*

WHEREAS, The MCAS graduation requirement has been a mainstay in our schools since 1993 and a prominent feature in our school's success on national leaderboards since then, as high standards have produced good outcomes for our students; *and*

WHEREAS, The MCAS exam has unearthed achievement gaps that have led to increased funding for under-resourced districts which has promoted equity around the state; *and*

WHEREAS, The MCAS exam is successful at putting focus onto the student. With students who do not pass the MCAS receiving targeted support. And, high school MCAS scores predict long-term success independent of socioeconomic status or school characteristics; *and*

WHEREAS, The data shows that there are so many students that are not meeting academic expectations and MCAS is one way of measuring students abilities. Scrapping of the MCAS exam would end any graduation standard across the state, making school governance across the state more difficult; essentially making 351 different standards for high school graduation; *NOW, THEREFORE BE IT*

RESOLVED: That the Boston City Council opposes the ballot measure to scrap the MCAS exam requirements and continue to have standardized testing to ensure all students have access to a quality education.

Filed on: July, 10, 2024