

**To: Sean Kealy**  
**From: Caitlin Calvo**  
**Re: Legislative History Project**  
**Date: May 8, 2022**

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I gathered the legislative history for An Act Promoting Student Nutrition (H.3999). Because this act was signed by the Governor pretty recently, in October 2021, there were many published articles and other documents about the act when it was signed and when it was still at the bill stage. In this memorandum, I will describe the procedures I followed and the resources I used to find the legislative history of H.3999. Most of the procedures I used were taken from *A Guide to Gathering and Using Legislative History in Massachusetts* and from our discussion in class.

First, I reviewed the Massachusetts Legislature website ([malegislature.gov](http://malegislature.gov)) to find the different versions of the bill and to find the timeline of when the bill was amended and updated throughout the legislative process. I found the enacted bill, past bill versions, and amendments. I also used this website to determine what committee the bill was under, the Joint Committee on Education, and see when a hearing was held on the bill. I used this information later when searching for testimony on the bill.

Next, I ran a Google search with the name of the act. I found many links to press reports and articles that described the act and quoted legislators' thoughts on the act. Many different news websites and organizations had articles or other materials, like fact sheets, which described the law. These were helpful in seeing what groups supported the bill. Many groups published the testimony that they submitted to the Joint Committee on Education online. Most of the news articles I found were from running a Google search. Through my Google search I even found a tweet from the Governor about signing the bill into law.

I then emailed members of the Joint Committee on Education, both the chairpersons and their staff, in order to get copies of the testimony submitted to Joint Committee on Education and any other documents related to the bill. One of the chairpersons' staff members responded very quickly and provided me with the written and oral testimony submitted to the Joint Committee on Education.

Next, I searched for newspaper articles through BU Law Library's Digitized Newspapers database. I was able to find some articles that were published in newspapers like the Boston Globe.

I then searched for documents and articles using the State House News Service that I accessed through BU Law Library's databases. I found floor discussions of the bill and also found some articles that discussed the bill and quoted legislators and other concerned parties about their thoughts on the bill. The next step I took was to review MassTrac which I also accessed using BU Law Library's databases. I found a few articles about the bill and act that I did not find with any of my prior searches. There were some other relevant documents in MassTrac, but I had already found them using my other research procedures.

Finally, as a last step, I ran a few different searches using more legal-focused databases. Using Westlaw's Legislative History tool, I found a few materials that discussed the bill in floor proceedings. I then ran similar searches in Lexis, but I did not find any new legislative history materials.

Overall, I think I found most of the legislative history for H.3999 which can be useful for practitioners, courts, and administrative agencies trying to understand and interpret H.3999 in the future.