

URGENT Ch. 766 ALERT

The Massachusetts Board of education is moving swiftly to make **major changes to the Chapter 766 regulations**. The Board will be holding 2 public hearings where you can comment on the proposed changes.

Springfield, February 7, 3-6 p.m. at the Kasparian Professional Development Center, 60 Alton St.

Malden February 14, 3-6 p.m. at the Department of Education, 350 Main St.

Directions printed on next page/back

It is CRUCIAL to attend these hearings !

Some of the major changes proposed in the Ch. 766 regulations include:

- **Eliminate requirement that the IEP team determine a child's specific placement.**
Under the Board's proposal, an administrator who is not a member of the IEP Team can determine the special education classroom or school for your child outside of the Team meeting process. Sec. 28.02(17), 28.06(2)
- **Remove parental consent requirements.**
Under the Board's proposal, the school district can change your child's IEP and placement without your consent. You must initiate legal proceedings (a hearing or mediation) in order to maintain your child's last agreed upon placement or services (this severely limits "stay put" rights). Sec. 28.07(1)(a), 28.08(7)
- **School districts can refuse to conduct an initial evaluation or re-evaluation.**
Under the Board's proposal, the school district can refuse to evaluate or re-evaluate a child who has been referred for an assessment by the parent, teacher, or other professional. Sec. 28.04(1)
- **Allows school districts to place all special education programs together in one part of a regular education school building.**
Under the Board's proposal, the Department of Education would establish a process to approve segregation of special education programs in one part of a building (i.e. separate wing, basement). Sec. 28.03(1)(b)(4)(iii)
- **Removes measurable short-term objectives from the IEP.**
Under the Board's proposal, the IEP would only contain annual goals. Short-term objectives are allowed, (though not required) by the changes to federal special education law and should continue to be required in Massachusetts. Sec. 28.05(3)

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

- **Attend the hearings**
- **Write or e-mail the state Board of Education by March 1**
spedregscomment@doe.mass.edu OR 350 Main St., Malden, MA.02148
- **Call or write your state senator or representative**
Call the state house at 617-722-2000, go to <http://www.mass.gov/legis/citytown.htm> to find out the name of your state senator and representative

Directions to Sites for Hearing on Proposed Changes to Massachusetts Special Education Regulations

MALDEN: Monday, February 14 3-6 p.m.

Massachusetts Department of Education
350 Main St.
Malden, Ma.

Directions to The Department of Education, Malden, MA

From Boston:

Take Route 93 North to Exit 32 (Route 60).

Take a right off the exit and follow Route 60 East approximately two miles.

The Department of Education will be on your left at the intersection of Main St. and Rte 60.

Parking is available in the CBD Garage next door.

From Route 128:

Take Route 93 South (Exit 37 Boston) to Exit 32 (Route 60).

At rotary, bear left and follow Route 60 East approximately two miles.

The Department of Education will be on your left at the intersection of Main St. and Rte 60.

Parking is available in the CBD Garage next door and the reception desk is on the third floor.

From Route 1:

Take Route 99 (Broadway) to Route 60.

Turn right onto Route 60 and follow for approximately 1 3/4 miles.

The Department of Education will be on your left at the intersection of Main St. and Rte 60.

Parking is available in the CBD Garage next door and the reception desk is on the third floor.

From the T:

Take the Orange Line in the direction of Oak Grove, get off at the Malden Center stop.

When you leave the station, cross Commercial Street and walk down Exchange Street.

The Department is in the last building on the right, and the reception desk is on the third floor.

From the Mass Pike:

Take I-90 EAST towards Boston.

Take the I-93 North exit towards Expressway North/Callahan Tunnel/Logan Airport

Follow Route 93 North to Exit 32 (Route 60).

Take a right off the exit and follow Route 60 East approximately two miles.

The Department of Education will be on your left at the intersection of Main St. and Rte 60.

Parking is available in the CBD Garage next door and the reception desk is on the third floor.

SPRINGFIELD: February 7, 3-6 p.m.

Kasparian Professional Development Center
60 Alton St.
Springfield, Ma. 01109

From Boston: Directions to the Kasparian Professional Development Center, Springfield, MA

Take the Mass Pike (I-90) West

Merge onto I-291 South, via Exit 6 toward Springfield

Take the Route 20A West Exit (Exit 5) toward E. Springfield/Chicopee Falls

Merge onto MA-20A/Page Blvd.

Turn left onto Roosevelt Ave.

Turn left onto Alton and arrive at 60 Alton St.