

Queer Youth Assemble One Pager

LGBTQ Youth State Commission (Title I, Ch. 3, Sec. 67 Massachusetts Example):

- This bill creates a permanent commission on lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning youth
- The commission comprises 27 members appointed by different lgbtq advocacy areas like healthcare, social work, parental support, etc. In recent years, the commission has expanded to 50 members.
 - There is a requirement for the following:
 - At least 1 parent of an LGBTQIA individual
 - At least 1 high school student in addition to 1 college student
 - At least 1 representative from an educational institution
 - At least 1 mental health professional
 - Appointed to 2-year terms
- The commission would be allowed to request information and assistance from all state agencies
- The commission would be allowed to accept funding, grants, donations, gifts, and other things of that nature
- Massachusetts and <u>Washington</u> are the only states that have this LGBTQIA+ State Commission
 - o Massachusetts is the only state whose commission is youth-centered
 - The Massachusetts Commission was founded in 1992
 - The commission releases yearly recommendations for state agencies about the ways various state agencies can directly improve the lives of lgbtq youth via direct and intersectional policy
- According to the Massachusetts state government, 14.3% of students in the state identified as LGBTQIA+ where the risk of being bullied in school was 1.7 times higher for LGBTQIA+ students in comparison to straight, cis-gendered peers. ¹

1 Mass. Legislature. (2020). MA Commission on LGBTQ Youth 2020 Fact Sheet: https://www.mass.gov/doc/ma-commission-on-lgbtq-youth-2020-fact-sheet/download