

## Movement in Massachusetts



On Monday, Sept. 13, the Joint Committee on Education heard public testimony on our model media literacy bill that would create a state advisory committee to help the department of education jumpstart media literacy education, and another bill to require media literacy skills as part of a safe and supportive schools law.

Thank you to everyone who wrote in to support those bills! We're now waiting to hear whether the bills will proceed. Stay tuned for more updates.

## Trouble in Texas

We're disappointed about a new law in Texas: TX SB3. Although it mandates media literacy within a teacher training program on civics education, it also takes some anti-free speech steps, including limiting the material and concepts that teachers would be allowed to discuss in class.

For example, teachers are not allowed to "require an understanding of the 1619 Project" (a New York Times project focused on race). Media literacy provides the ability to understand and deconstruct *all* ideological perspectives. Excluding politicized topics from the classroom will only exacerbate the country's media illiteracy problems.



Requiring teachers to be trained in media literacy "including instruction on verifying information and sources, identifying and responding to logical fallacies, and identifying propaganda" would have vaulted Texas to the lead among U.S. states in media literacy policy, if lawmakers had not included language suppressing the free exchange of ideas.

[Read the full text of the legislation here.](#)

---

## New: Global Media Literacy Rankings