

Senator Joan B. Lovely
2nd Essex District



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March 6, 2025

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**OFFICIALS TO HOLD VIRTUAL PRESS CONFERENCE
ON AGE OF CONSENT LEGISLATION**

BOSTON, MASS – March 6, 2025 – Senator Joan B. Lovely, Representative Leigh Davis, Berkshire District Attorney Timothy J. Shugrue, Essex District Attorney Paul F. Tucker, and ENOUGH ABUSE Executive Director Jetta Bernier will hold a virtual press conference on Monday, March 10, 2025 at 10 a.m. to discuss SD.1367/HD.2209: *An Act Relative to Sexual Assaults by Adults in Positions of Authority or Trust*.

This critical legislation aims to close a dangerous loophole in Massachusetts law by criminalizing sexual conduct between adults in positions of authority or trust in a public or private school setting and minors under their supervision. Under current law, adults in these roles cannot be prosecuted for this type of misconduct if the minor is 16 or older, the legal age of consent in Massachusetts. SD.1367/HD.2209 addresses this gap, recognizing the inherent power imbalance that enables coercion and exploitation.

WHEN:

Monday, March 10, 2025
10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

WHERE:

ZOOM: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/RpnB47aZTXa8eLRCM9wtqA>

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED

WHO:

Berkshire District Attorney Timothy J. Shugrue
Representative Leigh Davis
Senator Joan B. Lovely
Essex District Attorney Paul F. Tucker
Jetta Bernier, Executive Director, ENOUGH ABUSE

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