Massachusetts Act Prohibiting the Practice of Hazing
(Chapter 269 of the General Laws)

Section 17. Whoever is principal organizer or participant in the crime of hazing as defined herein shall be
punished by a fine of not more than three thousand dollars or by imprisonment in a house of correction for not
more than one year, or by both such fine and imprisonment. The term "hazing" as used in this section and in
sections 18 and 19, shall mean any conduct or method of initiation into any student organization, whether on
public or private property, which willfully or recklessly endangers the physical or mental health of any student
or other person. Such conduct shall include whipping, beating, branding, forced calisthenics, exposure to the
weather, forced consumption of any food, liquor, beverage, drug or other substance, or any other brutal treatment
or forced physical activity which is likely to adversely affect the physical health or safety of any such student or
other person, or which subjects such student or other person to extreme mental stress, including extended
deprivation of sleep or rest or extended isolation. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this section to the
contrary, consent shall not be available as a defense to any prosecution under this action.

Section 18. Whoever knows that another person is the victim of hazing as defined in Section 17 and is at the
scene of such crime shall, to the extent that such person can do so without danger or peril to himself or others,
report such crime to an appropriate law enforcement official as soon as reasonably practicable. Whoever fails to
report such crime shall be punished by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars.

Section 19. Each institution of secondary education and each public and private institution of post secondary
education shall issue to every student group, student team or student organization which is part of such
institution or is recognized by the institution or permitted by the institution to use its name or facilities or is
known by the institution to exist as an unaffiliated student group, student team or student organization, a copy of
this section and sections 17 and 18; provided, however, that the institution's compliance with this section's
requirements that an institution issue copies of this section and sections 17 and 18 to each of its members,
plebes, pledges or applicants for membership. It shall be the duty of each such group, team or organization, acting through its designated officer, to deliver annually, to the institution an attested acknowledgment stating that such group, team or organization has received a copy of this section and said sections 17 and 18 to each of its members, plebes, pledges or applicants for membership. It shall be the duty of each such group, team or organization, acting through its designated officer, to deliver annually, to the institution an attested acknowledgment stating that such group, team or organization has received a copy of this section and said sections 17 and 18, that each of its members, plebes, pledges, or applicants has received a copy of sections 17 and 18, and that such group, team or organization understands and agrees to comply with the provisions of this section and sections 17 and 18. Each institution of secondary education and each public or private institution of post secondary education shall, at least annually, before or at the start of enrollment, deliver to each person who enrolls as a full time student in such institution a copy of this section and sections 17 and 18. Each institution of secondary education and each public or private institution of post secondary education shall file, at least annually, a report with the regents of higher education and in the case of secondary institutions, the board of education, certifying that such institution has complied with its responsibility to inform student groups, teams or organizations and to notify each full time student enrolled by it of the provisions of this section and sections 17 and 18 and also certifying that said institution has adopted a disciplinary policy with regard to the organizers and participants of hazing, and that such policy has been set forth with appropriate emphasis in the student handbook or similar means of communicating the institution's policies to its students. The board of regents and, in the case of secondary institutions, the board of education shall promulgate regulations governing the content and frequency of such reports, and shall forthwith report to the attorney general any such institution which fails to make such report.
University Policy on Fraternities and Sororities

On May 28, 1988, the Board of Trustees of Brandeis University unanimously approved the following resolution:

The Board of Trustees reaffirms University policy of recognizing only those student organizations which are open to all students on the basis of competency or interest. Exclusive or secret societies are inconsistent with the principles of openness to which the University is committed. Therefore, social fraternities and sororities, in particular, are neither recognized nor permitted to hold activities on campus or use University facilities.