

HOUSE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Carl M. Sciortino, Jr.

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to promoting excellence and accountability for the education of mobile student populations.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Carl M. Sciortino, Jr.

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

34th Middlesex

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 560 OF 2007-2008.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT RELATIVE TO PROMOTING EXCELLENCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY FOR THE EDUCATION OF MOBILE STUDENT POPULATIONS.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority
of the same, as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. *Whereas* state education aid to Massachusetts cities and towns should more accurately
2 reflect district demographics by creating provisions to fund expenses related to mobile student enrollment,

3 Therefore,

4 SECTION 2. Section 2 of Chapter 70 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting the following
5 definition:

6 "Mobile student", any student who has been enrolled in a public school district for less than one academic
7 year.

8 SECTION 3. Section 2 of Chapter 70 of the General Laws is hereby further amended by inserting the
9 following definition:

10 "Mobile student enrollment", in any fiscal year, the average of the three previous fiscal years of the
11 number of mobile students enrolled in the school district.

12 SECTION 4. Section 2 of Chapter 70 of the General Laws is hereby further amended by inserting in the
13 definition of "Foundation miscellaneous expenses," after the word "staff" the following:

14 “plus (d) one thousand dollars multiplied by the mobile student enrollment.”

15 SECTION 5. Section 1I of Chapter 69 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2004 Official Edition, is
16 hereby amended by adding after the word “district” in line 163 the following line:-

17 (j) the number of mobile students and also, when attainable, the reason for student transfer

18 SECTION 6. Section 1I of Chapter 69 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2004 Official Edition, is
19 hereby further amended by inserting after paragraph 12 the following new paragraph:-

20 The department of education shall study the impact of the rate of student mobility on adequate yearly
21 progress determinations for all school districts and shall issue a report of their findings as well as an
22 annual report of MCAS test results by school district comparing test results between (a) the non-mobile
23 student population and (b) the mobile student population.

24 SECTION 7. Chapter 69 of the General Laws is hereby further amended by adding the following section:-

25 Section 1N. Subject to appropriation, the department of education shall develop a pilot grant program to
26 selected high mobility school districts for the purpose of developing and implementing programs to
27 ensure the successful transition and academic success of mobile students. Grants shall be awarded to
28 school districts for programs designed to (a) provide welcome and transition assistance programs for
29 mobile students; (b) provide tutoring in core content and ESOL; (c) assess the impact of mobile students
30 on non-mobile student academic success; (d) provide guidance and support services targeted to mobile
31 students; and (e) other programs determined by the department of education to meet the needs of mobile
32 students and school districts with high mobility populations. The department of education may
33 promulgate regulations as necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.