

SENATE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Richard T. Moore

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 to Promote Healthy School Meals.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Richard T. Moore

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Worcester and Norfolk

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT TO PROMOTE HEALTHY SCHOOL MEALS.

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. Sec. 69 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting the following
2 new section:

3 Section 10. Healthy School Meals Program

4 It is hereby established the Pilot Rewards for Healthy School Meals Program. The State
5 Department of Elementary and Secondary Education is authorized to expend in each fiscal year
6 an amount equal to (1) the money required pursuant to the matching requirements of federal laws
7 and shall disburse the same in accordance with said laws with (2) an additional ten cents per
8 lunch served in the prior school year as the rewards for awardees selected for the pilot Healthy
9 School Meals Program. Those schools eligible to apply for these awards are those under the
10 jurisdiction of any local or regional school district, the regional vocational-technical school
11 system or governing authority of an interdistrict magnet school that participates in the National
12 School Lunch Program and that applies to the State Department of Education Pilot Rewards for
13 Healthy School Meals Program, and is judged by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary

14 and Secondary Education as meeting criteria for a Healthy School Meals Program. In order to
15 qualify for rewards for Healthy School Meals Program, eligible schools must also have
16 committed to a written School Wellness Policy that complies with the standards set by Section
17 204 of the national Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004.

18 The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, in consultation with the
19 Department of Public Health, will promulgate standards for school certification as Healthy
20 School Meals schools. The standards will include a) a minimum proportion of use of locally
21 grown fresh fruits and vegetables in season as part of school meals and a la carte offerings as
22 demonstrated in school food purchasing records; and b) meeting the nutrition standards for
23 school lunches, either by meeting the United States Department of Agriculture Healthier U.S.
24 Challenge award or by meeting the nutrition standards as delineated in the most recent Institute
25 of Medicine report on Nutrition Standards for School Lunches. The Department of Elementary
26 and Secondary Education will establish methods including on-site review to determine that
27 schools meet these criteria and are eligible to apply.

28 The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education shall prescribe the
29 manner and time of application by local or regional schools and school districts, the regional
30 vocational-technical school system, such governing authority for such funds, provided such
31 application shall include the certification that any funds received pursuant to subsection (a) of
32 this section shall be used for the purpose of purchasing foods for school meals, a la carte or
33 federally reimbursed school lunches. The State Board of Education shall determine the eligibility
34 of the applicant to receive such grants pursuant to regulations provided.

35 (c) The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education may adopt such
36 regulations as may be necessary in implementing sections above, inclusive.

37 (d) The Commissioner of Education shall establish a procedure for monitoring compliance by
38 boards of education, the regional vocational-technical school system, or governing authorities
39 with certifications submitted in accordance with this act and may adjust grant amounts pursuant
40 to (a) of this section based on failure to comply with said certification.