

SENATE No. 812

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Michael J. Barrett

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 adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act establishing a fund to further educational opportunities for caregivers to adults with disabilities.

PETITION OF:

Table with 3 columns: NAME, DISTRICT/ADDRESS, and Date. Lists 17 names and their corresponding districts and dates.

<i>Danillo A. Sena</i>	<i>37th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/26/2023</i>
<i>Michael O. Moore</i>	<i>Second Worcester</i>	<i>3/15/2023</i>
<i>Bruce E. Tarr</i>	<i>First Essex and Middlesex</i>	<i>3/23/2023</i>
<i>Susan L. Moran</i>	<i>Plymouth and Barnstable</i>	<i>3/30/2023</i>
<i>Vanna Howard</i>	<i>17th Middlesex</i>	<i>5/12/2023</i>
<i>Jacob R. Oliveira</i>	<i>Hampden, Hampshire and Worcester</i>	<i>1/10/2024</i>

SENATE No. 812

By Mr. Barrett, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 812) of Michael J. Barrett, Sean Garballey, Jack Patrick Lewis, Joanne M. Comerford and other members of the General Court for legislation to establish a fund to further educational opportunities for caregivers to adults with disabilities. Higher Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court
(2023-2024)**

An Act establishing a fund to further educational opportunities for caregivers to adults with disabilities.

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. Chapter 29 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after
2 section 2QQQQQ the following section:-

3 Section 2RRRRR. (a) There shall be established and set up on the books of the
4 commonwealth a separate fund to be known as the Caregivers to Adults with Disabilities Fund.
5 The board of higher education, hereinafter the board, shall administer the fund. The fund shall be
6 credited with: (1) revenue from appropriations or other money authorized by the general court
7 and specifically designated to be credited to the fund; (2) interest earned on such revenue; and
8 (3) funds from public and private sources and other gifts, grants and donations. All amounts
9 credited to the fund shall be used solely for activities and expenditures consistent with the public
10 purpose of the fund as set forth in subsection (b), including the ordinary and necessary expenses
11 of administration and operation associated with the fund. All amounts credited to the fund shall

12 be held in trust and shall be available for expenditure, without further appropriation, by the
13 board. Any unexpended balance in the fund at the close of a fiscal year shall remain in the fund
14 and shall be available for expenditure in subsequent fiscal years.

15 Annually, not later than December 1, the board shall issue a report to the clerks of the
16 house of representatives and the senate, the chairs of the house and senate committees on ways
17 and means, the chairs of the joint committee on education and the chairs of the joint committee
18 on children, families and persons with disabilities on the fund's activities including, but not
19 limited to, amounts credited to the fund, amounts expended from the fund and any unexpended
20 balance.

21 (b) The board shall make expenditures from the fund for the purpose of furthering the
22 educational opportunities of those who serve as caregivers to adults with disabilities by
23 subsidizing tuition and fees for community college courses at eligible postsecondary institutions.

24 (c) The board shall promulgate regulations to effectuate the purposes of this section.

25 SECTION 2. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, not later than 14
26 days after the effective date of this act, the state comptroller shall transfer from the General Fund
27 \$4,125,000 to the Caregivers to Adults with Disabilities Fund established in chapter 29.