

HOUSE No. 360

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

James M. Cantwell

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:

An Act creating a school resource officer grant program and fund.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

James M. Cantwell

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

4th Plymouth

HOUSE No. 360

By Mr. Cantwell of Marshfield, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 360) of James M. Cantwell relative to creating a school resource officer grant program and fund. Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

An Act creating a school resource officer grant program and fund.

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 69 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2010 Official Edition,
2 is hereby amended by inserting the following section: -

3
4 Section 10. School Resource Officer Grant Program

5
6 (a) From the funds appropriated for such purpose and from the gifts, donations, grants,
7 bequests, and other funds received on its behalf, there is established (1) the School Resource
8 Officer Grant Program, to be administered by the board, in consultation with the Board of
9 Education, and (2) a special nonreverting fund within the state treasury known as the School
10 Resource Officer Incentive Grant Program, hereinafter known as the fund. Any monies
11 remaining in the fund at the end of the legislative session shall not revert to the General Fund,
12 but shall remain in the fund. Interest earned on such funds shall remain in the fund and be
13 credited to it.

14
15 Subject to the authority of the board to provide for its disbursement, the fund shall be disbursed
16 to award matching grants to local law enforcement agencies and local school boards that have
17 established a collaborative agreement to employ uniformed school resource officers, as defined
18 in subsection (b) of this section 10, in middle and high schools within the relevant school
19 division. The board may disburse annually up to five percent of the fund for training of the
20 school resource officers. School resource officers shall be certified law enforcement officers and
21 shall be employed to help ensure safety, to prevent truancy and violence in schools, and to
22 enforce school board rules and codes of student conduct.

23
24 (b) A “school resource officer” is defined as a certified law enforcement officer hired by the
25 local law enforcement agency to provide law enforcement and security services to the
26 Massachusetts elementary and secondary public schools.

27

28 (c) The board, in consultation with the commissioner and the Department on Public Safety,
29 shall establish criteria for making grants from the fund, including procedures for determining the
30 amount of a grant and the required local match. Any grant or general funds shall be matched by
31 the locality on the basis of the locality's ability to pay. The board may adopt guidelines
32 governing the program and the employment and duties of the school resource officers as it deems
33 necessary and appropriate.

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