SENATE DOCKET, NO. 1120 FILED ON: 1/20/2011

SENATE . . . . . No. 575

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Richard J. Ross

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 relative to access to higher education for veterans.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Richard J. Ross	*Norfolk, Bristol, and Middlesex*
George T. Ross	*2nd Bristol*
James J. Dwyer	*30th Middlesex*
Sheila C. Harrington	*1st Middlesex*
Michael R. Knapik	☐ *[District]* ☐
Bruce E. Tarr	☐ *[District]* ☐
Richard Bastien	*2nd Worcester*
Carolyn C. Dykema	*8th Middlesex*
Randy Hunt	*5th Barnstable*
Todd M. Smola	*1st Hampden*
Daniel B. Winslow	*9th Norfolk*

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SENATE . . . . . No. 575

By Mr. Ross, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 575) of Richard J. Ross, George T. Ross, James J. Dwyer, Sheila C. Harrington and other members of the General Court for legislation to allow veterans to pay in-state tuition and fees at state or community colleges. Higher Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

An Act relative to access to higher education for veterans.

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

SECTION 1. Section 9 of chapter 15A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2008 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding the following paragraph:- Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, for the purpose of determining eligibility for in-state tuition rates and fees at public institutions of higher education, any individual admitted to such public institutions of higher education who qualifies as a veteran, as defined in clause 43 of Section 7 of chapter 4 of the 2008 edition of the Massachusetts General Laws, shall be eligible to pay in-state tuition rates and fees, immediately upon establishing residency in the Commonwealth, at the University of Massachusetts, or any state or community college or university. No person qualified for in-state tuition rates and fees under this chapter shall be denied in-state tuition and fees as a result of the granting of eligibility under this paragraph. An eligible individual shall provide the University of Massachusetts, or the state or community college or university, with proof of veteran status.