

HOUSE No. 498

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Nine

An Act to increase accountability in school choice reimbursement..

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 12B of chapter 76 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2004 Official Edition,
2 is hereby amended by striking out subsection (g) and inserting in place thereof the following
3 subsection:—

4 (g) The state treasurer is further directed to disburse to the receiving district, from the
5 School Choice Tuition Trust Fund established by section twelve C, an amount equal to each
6 student's school choice tuition as defined in subsection (f); provided, however, that each public
7 school district which admits children under the provisions of this section shall certify to the state
8 treasurer the number of such children attending its public schools, number of students which
9 have been placed in an out-of-district placement, the city or town of residence of each such child,
10 the annual amount of tuition for each such child and the total tuition owed to the district based on
11 full or partial attendance, itemized by the amount attributable to each city or town of residence;
12 and, provided further, that such certification shall be made on October first of each year and
13 April first of each year. Each school district submitting a certification to the state treasurer shall
14 also submit a copy of said certification to the department of education and to the sending district.

15 Said department and sending district may review said certification to determine that the amount
16 of the individual tuition charged for each child is in accordance with the provisions of this
17 section and shall inform the state treasurer of any errors. The department shall also, on a post-
18 audit basis, verify the admission and attendance of the number of children certified by each
19 school district, and shall prescribe strict penalties for inaccuracies, including the reimbursement
20 of all funding and accrued interest for any students who fail to enroll, drop out, or transfer from
21 the receiving district to a non-public school.