

HOUSE No. 3938

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, March 10, 2014.

The committee on Education to whom was referred the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 458) of lices Hanlon Peisch and Denise C. Garlick relative to education collaboratives, reports recommending that the accompanying bill (House, No. 3938) ought to pass.

For the committee,

ALICE HANLON PEISCH.

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Fourteen

An Act relative to education collaboratives.

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. Subsection (c) of section 4E of chapter 40 of the General Laws, as
2 appearing in the 2012 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out, in lines 36-38, the
3 words, “The commissioner shall appoint an individual to serve as a voting member of the
4 education collaborative board of directors;” and inserting in place thereof the words, “The
5 commissioner shall appoint an individual to serve as a liaison from the department of elementary
6 and secondary education to the education collaborative board of directors;”.

7 SECTION 2. Said subsection (c) of said section 4E of said chapter 40 of the General
8 Laws, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by striking out, in lines 102-104, the words “in
9 a form approved by the department of revenue and in a sum not less than the amount established
10 by the department,” and inserting in place thereof the words “in a form approved by the
11 department of revenue and in a sum not less than the amount established by said department”.

12 SECTION 3. Said subsection (c) of said section 4E of said chapter 40 of the General
13 Laws, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by striking out, in line 124, the words “and
14 articles of incorporation”.

15 SECTION 4. Said section 4E of said chapter 40 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is
16 hereby amended by adding the following subsections:-

17 (n) Education collaboratives shall be organized into 6 geographic regions established by
18 the board of elementary and secondary education, in consultation with the Massachusetts
19 Organization of Educational Collaboratives. One collaborative from each region shall be
20 designated by majority vote of the member collaboratives as a regional liaison for a period of 3
21 years. Each regional liaison shall: (1) identify regional needs and priorities for educational
22 services; (2) develop policies to coordinate the delivery of services to school districts in a

23 manner that responds to regional needs and priorities; and (3) work in partnership with the
24 department of elementary and secondary education and other regional entities, including but not
25 limited to, district and school assistance centers, readiness centers, and workforce investment
26 boards, to coordinate the dissemination of information and support to districts. The department
27 shall, subject to appropriation, provide grants to regional liaisons to support their planning and
28 coordination activities.

29 (o) For a particular state initiative, the board of elementary and secondary education may
30 designate a lead collaborative in each region to provide support for the implementation of that
31 initiative. The board of elementary and secondary education shall accept applications for such
32 designation and choose the applicant best suited to lead the particular initiative.

33 (p) The department shall promote the use of education collaboratives as providers of
34 educational services and programs for local school districts and shall give special consideration
35 to grant applications that include the use of education collaboratives for the purpose of procuring
36 services and programs. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the
37 department may designate educational collaboratives as eligible recipients and local education
38 agencies (LEAs) for any federal or state grants to cities, towns, and regional school districts for
39 educational programs.

40 (q) An education collaborative formed under this section may provide services to
41 developmentally disabled individuals over the age of 22, upon the approval from the
42 commissioner of developmental services and shall be subject to the rules and regulations of the
43 department of developmental services.

44 SECTION 5. Chapter 43 of the acts of 2012 is hereby amended by striking out Section 4.

45 SECTION 6. The provisions of subsection (n) of Section 4 shall take effect 12 months
46 from the effective date of this act.

47 SECTION 7. The board of elementary and secondary education shall promulgate
48 regulations as may be necessary to carry out this act.

49 SECTION 8. The Massachusetts School Building Authority, established under section 1A
50 of chapter 70B of the General Laws, shall award incentive points to districts for projects that
51 include spaces for in-district special education programs and services provided by education
52 collaboratives as defined in section 4E of chapter 40.

53 SECTION 9. An education collaborative formed under section 4E of chapter 40 of the
54 General Laws that was providing services to developmentally disabled individuals over the age
55 of 22 prior to the effective date of this act may continue to provide such services upon the
56 approval from the commissioner of developmental services.