

HOUSE No. 3940

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. 486) of John W. Scibak and Martha M. Walz relative to the School Choice Tuition Trust Fund, reports recommending that the accompanying bill (House, No. 3940) ought to pass.

For the committee,

ALICE HANLON PEISCH.

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In the Year Two Thousand Fourteen

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 2012 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 elementary and secondary education
15 and to the sending district. Said department and sending district may review said certification to
16 determine that the amount of the individual tuition charged for each child is in accordance with
17 the provisions of this section and shall inform the state treasurer of any errors. The department
18 may, on a post-audit basis, verify the admission and attendance of the number of children
19 certified by each school district. A sending district shall be reimbursed for any tuition paid for
20 any students who fail to enroll, drop out, or transfer from the receiving district to a non-public
21 school. Such reimbursement shall be pro-rated for the amount of time, if any, the students
22 attended the receiving district.