

HOUSE No. 4017

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Fourteen

An Act establishing a commission to study vocational-technical schools.

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. There shall be a special commission to study the role of vocational-
2 technical schools, including regional vocational technical schools and agricultural schools. The
3 commission shall consist of 13 members: the house and senate chairs of the joint committee on
4 education, or designees, who shall serve as co-chairs of the commission; the senate minority
5 leader, or a designee; the house minority leader, or a designee; the secretary of education, or a
6 designee; the commissioner of elementary and secondary education, or a designee; and 7 persons
7 to be appointed by the secretary of education, 2 of whom shall be selected from a list of 4
8 persons nominated by the Massachusetts Association of Vocational Administrators, provided
9 that the list includes a representative from an agricultural school; 1 of whom shall be selected
10 from a list of 3 persons nominated by the Massachusetts Association of Regional Schools; 1 of
11 whom shall be selected from a list of 3 persons nominated by the Massachusetts Teachers
12 Association, provided that the list includes vocational-technical teachers; 1 of whom shall be
13 selected from a list of 3 persons nominated by the American Federation of Teachers of
14 Massachusetts, provided that the list includes vocational-technical teachers; 1 of whom shall be
15 selected from a list of 3 persons nominated by the Massachusetts Association of School
16 Superintendents, Inc.; and 1 of whom shall be selected from a list of 3 persons nominated by the
17 Massachusetts Association of School Committees, Inc.

18 SECTION 2. The commission shall examine, report and make recommendations on
19 topics including, but not limited to: (1) the laws governing vocational education; (2) the laws
20 governing regional district agreements; (3) student enrollment and the admissions process for
21 students, including out-of-district students; (4) student transportation costs; (5) capital
22 improvements and investments, including capital instructional equipment; (6) finance structures,
23 including vocational education tuition; (7) the affiliation of vocational technical schools to
24 community colleges; and (8) other matters pertaining to vocational education.

25 SECTION 3. The first meeting of the commission shall take place within 60 days after
26 the effective date of this act. The commission shall file a report containing its recommendations,
27 including legislation and regulations necessary to carry out its recommendations, with the clerks
28 of the house and senate not later than 12 months following the first meeting of the commission.