

SENATE No. 587

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Karen E. Spilka

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 adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act to promote higher education among employees of human services provider organizations.

PETITION OF:

| NAME: | DISTRICT/ADDRESS: |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <i>Karen E. Spilka</i> | <i>Second Middlesex and Norfolk</i> |
| <i>John W. Scibak</i> | <i>2nd Hampshire</i> |
| <i>Stephen L. DiNatale</i> | <i>3rd Worcester</i> |
| <i>Alan Silvia</i> | <i>7th Bristol</i> |
| <i>Ruth B. Balsler</i> | <i>12th Middlesex</i> |
| <i>Jennifer L. Flanagan</i> | <i>Worcester and Middlesex</i> |
| <i>Chris Walsh</i> | <i>6th Middlesex</i> |
| <i>Tom Sannicandro</i> | <i>7th Middlesex</i> |
| <i>Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr.</i> | <i>12th Hampden</i> |
| <i>Kenneth J. Donnelly</i> | <i>Fourth Middlesex</i> |
| <i>John V. Fernandes</i> | <i>10th Worcester</i> |
| <i>Sal N. DiDomenico</i> | <i>Middlesex and Suffolk</i> |
| <i>Benjamin Swan</i> | <i>11th Hampden</i> |
| <i>George N. Peterson, Jr.</i> | <i>9th Worcester</i> |
| <i>Antonio F. D. Cabral</i> | <i>13th Bristol</i> |

SENATE No. 587

By Ms. Spilka, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 587) of Karen E. Spilka, John W. Scibak, Stephen L. DiNatale, Alan Silvia and other members of the General Court for legislation to promote higher education among employees of human services provider organizations. Higher Education.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 576 OF 2011-2012.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

—————
In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen
—————

An Act to promote higher education among employees of human services provider organizations.

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. Chapter 15A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2010 Official
2 Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after Section 19E the following new section:-

3 Section 19 F. The board of higher education, in exercising its powers under section 4 of
4 Chapter 15A shall by no later than 180 after the effective date of this act establish a program of
5 tuition remission pursuant to which persons employed by providers of social services programs
6 that hold contracts with the commonwealth, and spouses of those persons, are provided tuition
7 remission benefits for courses or programs taken at any public community college or state
8 college or the University of Massachusetts. Tuition remission benefits provided to such persons
9 and their spouses shall be on parity, as nearly as possible, with tuition remission benefits
10 provided to employees of the commonwealth and their spouses. For purposes of this act, the
11 term "social services programs" shall have the meaning specified in section 274 of chapter 110
12 of the acts of 1993, as amended. In developing such programs of tuition remission benefits, the
13 board of higher education and the administrator of the current tuition remission program
14 operated by the Massachusetts Council of Human Services Providers, Inc. shall consult with the
15 secretary of health and human services and the secretary of elder affairs.