

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1068**

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Tom Sannicandro and Michael O. Moore*

*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 relative to strengthening and expanding affordable, quality higher education opportunities for residents of the Commonwealth.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Tom Sannicandro</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>
<i>Michael O. Moore</i>	<i>Second Worcester</i>
<i>Paul W. Mark</i>	<i>2nd Berkshire</i>
<i>Eileen M. Donoghue</i>	<i>First Middlesex</i>
<i>Benjamin B. Downing</i>	<i>Berkshire, Hampshire, Franklin and Hampden</i>
<i>William Smitty Pignatelli</i>	<i>4th Berkshire</i>
<i>Stephen L. DiNatale</i>	<i>3rd Worcester</i>
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>
<i>James Arciero</i>	<i>2nd Middlesex</i>
<i>Aaron Vega</i>	<i>5th Hampden</i>
<i>Michael J. Rodrigues</i>	<i>First Bristol and Plymouth</i>
<i>Jay D. Livingstone</i>	<i>8th Suffolk</i>
<i>Thomas J. Calter</i>	<i>12th Plymouth</i>
<i>Chris Walsh</i>	<i>6th Middlesex</i>
<i>Sean Garballey</i>	<i>23rd Middlesex</i>
<i>David Paul Linsky</i>	<i>5th Middlesex</i>

<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>
<i>Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr.</i>	<i>12th Hampden</i>
<i>Barbara A. L'Italien</i>	<i>Second Essex and Middlesex</i>
<i>Carolyn C. Dykema</i>	<i>8th Middlesex</i>
<i>Claire D. Cronin</i>	<i>11th Plymouth</i>
<i>Tricia Farley-Bouvier</i>	<i>3rd Berkshire</i>
<i>Timothy R. Madden</i>	<i>Barnstable, Dukes and Nantucket</i>
<i>Paul Brodeur</i>	<i>32nd Middlesex</i>
<i>Frank A. Moran</i>	<i>17th Essex</i>
<i>Mary S. Keefe</i>	<i>15th Worcester</i>
<i>Rady Mom</i>	<i>18th Middlesex</i>
<i>Gailanne M. Cariddi</i>	<i>1st Berkshire</i>
<i>Michael J. Finn</i>	<i>6th Hampden</i>
<i>Peter V. Kocot</i>	<i>1st Hampshire</i>
<i>Louis L. Kafka</i>	<i>8th Norfolk</i>
<i>Jennifer E. Benson</i>	<i>37th Middlesex</i>
<i>Ann-Margaret Ferrante</i>	<i>5th Essex</i>
<i>Brian M. Ashe</i>	<i>2nd Hampden</i>
<i>Joseph W. McGonagle, Jr.</i>	<i>28th Middlesex</i>
<i>Marjorie C. Decker</i>	<i>25th Middlesex</i>
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>
<i>Carmine L. Gentile</i>	<i>13th Middlesex</i>
<i>Jeffrey N. Roy</i>	<i>10th Norfolk</i>
<i>Brendan P. Crighton</i>	<i>11th Essex</i>
<i>Kenneth I. Gordon</i>	<i>21st Middlesex</i>
<i>Christine P. Barber</i>	<i>34th Middlesex</i>
<i>Jonathan Hecht</i>	<i>29th Middlesex</i>
<i>Daniel M. Donahue</i>	<i>16th Worcester</i>
<i>James J. O'Day</i>	<i>14th Worcester</i>
<i>Ellen Story</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>
<i>Harold P. Naughton, Jr.</i>	<i>12th Worcester</i>
<i>Paul McMurtry</i>	<i>11th Norfolk</i>
<i>Benjamin Swan</i>	<i>11th Hampden</i>
<i>Carlos Gonzalez</i>	<i>10th Hampden</i>
<i>Linda Dorcena Forry</i>	<i>First Suffolk</i>
<i>John J. Mahoney</i>	<i>13th Worcester</i>
<i>Daniel Cullinane</i>	<i>12th Suffolk</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>
<i>Steven Ultrino</i>	<i>33rd Middlesex</i>



**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1068**

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By Representative Sannicandro of Ashland and Senator Moore, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1068) of Tom Sannicandro, Michael Moore and others relative to strengthening and expanding affordable, quality higher education opportunities for residents of the Commonwealth. Higher Education.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court  
(2015-2016)**  
\_\_\_\_\_

An Act relative to strengthening and expanding affordable, quality higher education opportunities for residents of the Commonwealth.

*Whereas*, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to assist in providing forthwith affordable postsecondary educational opportunities for residents of the commonwealth, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.

*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. Section 1 of chapter 15A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2012  
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the 3rd paragraph, the following  
3 paragraph:- It is hereby further declared to be the policy of the commonwealth to ensure that the  
4 university of Massachusetts, each state university, and each community college has at its  
5 disposal adequate funds to provide, foster and support high quality institutions of public higher  
6 education that serve the interests of the commonwealth and its citizens in the manner described  
7 in this section. For that purpose, it is hereby further declared to be the policy of the  
8 commonwealth to make annually to the university of Massachusetts, each state university, and  
9 each community college appropriations which, with all other unrestricted funds that are

10 available, in the case of each, for expenditure in the conduct of its affairs and the support of its  
11 mission, are sufficient to fully fund its operating requirements. It is hereby further declared to be  
12 the policy of the commonwealth to provide adequate funds to the university of Massachusetts,  
13 each state university, and each community college for capital needs including the repair,  
14 renovation, construction, reconstruction, improvement, demolition, expansion, acquisition,  
15 furnishing, or equipping of buildings, structures, facilities and other infrastructure, including, but  
16 not limited to technology infrastructure, necessary to maintain high quality institutions of higher  
17 education.

18 SECTION 2. Section 9 of said chapter 15A, as so appearing, is hereby amended by  
19 inserting after the word “education”, in line 229, the following:- ; and (hh) to build and  
20 maintain, in conjunction with the university of Massachusetts, the state universities, and the  
21 community colleges, a transfer system providing individual students with clear and consistent  
22 information on the student’s progress toward fulfilling degree requirements in any undergraduate  
23 program at any public institution of higher education in the state; provided, that the system shall  
24 include a standard core of course offering and numbering that are honored for common credit  
25 toward degrees and certificates across the commonwealth’s public institutions of higher  
26 education, and course-to-course equivalencies across these institutions that will enable students  
27 to transfer from one public institution of higher education to another without loss of credit;  
28 provided further, that the board shall coordinate the implementation of the system and all public  
29 institutions of higher education institutions in the state shall utilize the system for all  
30 undergraduate programs and course offerings; provided further, that the board, in consultation  
31 with the University of Massachusetts, the state universities, and the community colleges, shall

32 determine the form in which all data and course equivalencies shall be submitted by these  
33 institutions.

34 SECTION 3. Section 9 of said chapter 15A, as so appearing, is hereby by further  
35 amended by adding the following paragraph:- All postsecondary educational institutions  
36 offering courses and programs leading to degrees or certificates to residents of the  
37 commonwealth shall provide uniform student financial aid information to every prospective  
38 student who has been accepted for admission to the institution. Each institution shall provide  
39 this information prior to the institution's enrollment deadline for purposes of providing each  
40 student with time to make an informed decision about enrollment. Each institution shall use the  
41 financial aid shopping sheet or such other standardized document developed by the U.S.  
42 Department of Education to provide this information. Each institution annually shall post on its  
43 website a list and description of all scholarships, grants, or other funds that do not have to be  
44 paid back that are available at the institution to assist students in paying for their education.  
45 Each institution shall inform students about any income based loan repayment programs and  
46 public interest or other loan forgiveness programs available for borrowers of student loans. In  
47 addition, all public institutions of higher education in the state shall work with American Student  
48 Assistance through its SALT or other programs and the Massachusetts Educational Financing  
49 Authority to provide financial literacy for students attending these institutions.

50 The board of higher education shall develop a clear and consistent definition of what  
51 constitutes student financial aid which shall be used by all postsecondary educational institutions  
52 offering courses and programs leading to degrees or certificates to residents of the  
53 commonwealth.

54 SECTION 4. Section 15F of said chapter 15A, as so appearing, is hereby amended by  
55 inserting in lines 11, 20, 21 23, 27, 30, and 33, after the word “credit”, the words:-and for-credit.

56 SECTION 5. Section 16 of said chapter 15A, as so appearing, is hereby amended by  
57 adding the following paragraph:- No state scholarship funds under this section, any other section  
58 of this chapter, or other state student financial aid however provided, shall be made available to,  
59 or on behalf, of any student enrolled in any postsecondary educational institution which the  
60 board of higher education determines does not meet the requirements of this paragraph. To  
61 meet the requirements of this paragraph, a postsecondary educational institution shall  
62 demonstrate to the board that it has: (a) not more than 40% of its undergraduate students  
63 borrowing student loans; (b) graduation rates of not less than 30% for undergraduate students  
64 taking 150% or less of the expected time to complete degree requirements, as most recently  
65 reported by the U.S. Department of Higher Education, provided, that graduation rates shall  
66 include students who transfer; or (c) an average 3 year cohort default rate that is not more than  
67 20%, as most recently reported by the U.S. Department of Education. The board of higher  
68 education shall promulgate rules and regulations to implement this paragraph including, but not  
69 limited to, procedures and processes for annually determining which postsecondary educational  
70 institutions meet the requirements of this paragraph, and a process for an institution to appeal a  
71 determination that they do not meet the necessary requirements. The board of higher education  
72 shall annually post a list of institutions that meet the requirements of this paragraph on the  
73 department of higher education’s website. No state scholarship funds under this section, any  
74 other section of this chapter, or other state student financial aid however provided, that is made  
75 available to, or on behalf, of any student enrolled in any for-profit postsecondary educational  
76 institution shall be used for purposes of marketing or advertising.

77

78 SECTION 6. Chapter 15A of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after  
79 section 42, the following section:-

80 Section 43. There shall be a Partnership to Advance Collaboration and Efficiency, herein  
81 referred to as PACE. The purposes of PACE shall be to foster collaborations that promote  
82 operational efficiencies, cost savings, increased productivity, and increase and enhance high  
83 quality higher education opportunities for residents of the commonwealth at the public  
84 institutions of higher education set forth in section 5. Initiatives undertaken by PACE shall  
85 include, but not be limited to, cooperative efforts directed at increasing joint purchasing,  
86 expanding shared services, increasing innovative measures for delivering higher education, and  
87 enhancing academic opportunities for students. PACE shall be governed by a steering  
88 committee consisting of the following: the president of the university of Massachusetts; 2  
89 persons from the university of Massachusetts appointed by the president to serve for terms not  
90 exceeding 4 years, as the president may determine; 3 presidents of the state universities to be  
91 selected by vote of the presidents of the 9 state universities conducted at least once every 4 years;  
92 3 presidents of the community colleges to be selected by vote of the presidents of the 15  
93 community colleges to be conducted at least once every 4 years; and the commissioner of higher  
94 education. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the steering committee  
95 may hire staff, enter into contracts, interagency or other agreements, apply for federal, state, or  
96 other grants, establish subcommittees, and do whatever it deems necessary to carry out the  
97 purposes of PACE. The steering committee shall annually submit, on or before March 1, to the  
98 joint committee on higher education and the house and senate committees on ways and means a  
99 report detailing the results of all PACE initiatives undertaken during the prior year. Monies



100 saved as a result of initiatives undertaken pursuant to this section shall supplement, not offset, or  
101 reduce state appropriations provided to the university of Massachusetts, the state universities,  
102 and the community colleges, and shall be used by the institutions to reduce the cost of education  
103 for students attending these institutions.

104 SECTION 7. Paragraph (B) of section 2 of chapter 18 of the General Laws, as amended  
105 by section 1 of chapter 65 of the acts of 2013, is hereby amended by adding the following 2  
106 clauses:-

107 (m) take all necessary actions, including connecting individuals with education  
108 opportunity coordinators established in section 5, to ensure that individuals receiving cash  
109 assistance through transitional aid to families with dependent children may engage in community  
110 college programs where assessment shows their chances of achieving long-term careers will  
111 improve.

112 (n) annually file a report with the chairs of the joint committee on higher education,  
113 the joint committee on children, families, and persons with disabilities, and the house and senate  
114 committees on ways and means that shall include, but not be limited to:- (1) information  
115 regarding the efficacy of community college placements in developing careers for recipients of  
116 cash assistance; (2) the number of recipients enrolled in certificate or two-year degree programs  
117 at community colleges; (3) the number of recipients enrolled in a certificate or two-year degree  
118 program receiving grants under the TAFDC Career Pathways Trust Fund established in section  
119 2LLLL of chapter 29; (4) graduation rates of recipients of cash assistance enrolled full time in a  
120 certificate or two-year degree program; (5) employment rates of former recipients 6 months after  
121 completing a degree or certificate program; and (6) employment rates of former recipients 1 year

122 after completing a degree or certificate program. No personal identifying information shall be  
123 used in the report. The first report shall be filed on or before August 1 two years after the  
124 TAFDC Career Pathways Trust Fund is established and annually, on or before August 1, after  
125 that.

126 SECTION 8. Section 5 of said chapter 18, as so appearing, is hereby amended by adding  
127 the following paragraph:-

128 The commissioner shall establish education opportunity coordinator positions within the  
129 department. The coordinators shall work with recipients of cash assistance through transitional  
130 aid to families with dependent children who enroll in community colleges for the purpose of  
131 earning a certificate or two-year degree. The coordinators shall work with recipients, community  
132 colleges, and case managers. Coordinators shall provide focused assistance to recipients  
133 including but not limited to developing career plans, identifying a program of study, accessing  
134 financial aid and work study, and helping obtain other supports such as childcare and  
135 transportation assistance. The commissioner shall enter into a memorandum of understanding  
136 with the community colleges to ensure coordinators execute the duties of this paragraph. Each  
137 community college shall have at least 1 on-campus coordinator.

138 SECTION 9. Chapter 29 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after  
139 section 2KKKK the following section:-

140 2LLLL. (a) There is hereby established and set up on the books of the commonwealth a  
141 separate fund to be known as the TAFDC Career Pathways Trust Fund, hereinafter referred to as  
142 the fund, to which shall be credited any appropriations, bond proceeds or other monies  
143 authorized by the general court and specifically designated to be credited thereto. Middlesex

144 Community College, hereinafter referred to as the college, shall hold the fund in an account or  
145 accounts separate from other funds or accounts; provided, however, that the fund shall be  
146 administered by the Massachusetts Community Colleges Executive Office. Appropriations  
147 unexpended at the end of the fiscal year shall remain in the fund and may be expended without  
148 further appropriation.

149 (b) The fund shall be used to provide and fund employment opportunities for students  
150 enrolled full time in a certificate or two-year associate's degree program at any community  
151 college who receive cash assistance under transitional aid to families with dependent children.

152 (c) Funds shall be expended to reimburse or pay students receiving cash assistance under  
153 transitional aid to families with dependent children and enrolled full time in a certificate or two-  
154 year associate's degree program at any community college, provided students may continue to  
155 qualify for reimbursement or payment for up to 3 months after the student's cash assistance  
156 under transitional aid to families with dependent children expires if the student is still  
157 matriculated.

158 (d) Funds expended shall, to the greatest extent feasible, be for jobs at an off-campus  
159 community service placement as defined in subsection (f), at the college the student attends, or  
160 that provide career development opportunities. For any funds expended for profit-making off-  
161 campus employers, said employer shall conduct business in the commonwealth and shall, to the  
162 greatest extent feasible, provide demonstrable benefit to the student's academic or vocational  
163 pursuits.

164 (e) The share from funds distributed shall not exceed 80 percent of the total compensation  
165 paid to students, with the exception of off-campus community service placements as defined in

166 subsection (f). Employers shall pay the costs of any employee benefits including all payments  
167 due as an employer's contribution under the state workman's compensation laws, federal Social  
168 Security laws, and other applicable laws. The federal work-study program shall not be used to  
169 provide the employer's share of student compensation.

170 (f) An off-campus community service placement shall include direct service planning,  
171 career development, or applied research that is designed to improve the quality of life for  
172 residents of the community served, particularly low-income residents, in such fields as health  
173 care, child care, education, literacy training, welfare, social services, public safety, crime  
174 prevention and control, transportation, recreation, housing and neighborhood improvement, rural  
175 development, and community improvement. Placements shall be identified by the college  
176 through formal or informal consultation with local nonprofit, governmental, and community-  
177 based organizations.

178 The placement shall not be at an organization for whom a substantial portion of its  
179 mission is political activities, including but not limited to electing candidates, influencing ballot  
180 questions, and raising money for political campaigns.

181 (g) Students shall be paid the rate of pay as compared to entry-level salaries and wages  
182 provided other employees engaged in similar work, provided total applicant resources shall be  
183 considered to ensure to the maximum extent feasible that students may remain qualified for other  
184 federal and state public assistance programs. The office may make reasonable adjustments to  
185 salaries and wages to maximize a student's participation in other federal and state public  
186 assistance programs.

187 (h) Funds shall not be expended under the program to compensate students for hours  
188 worked in excess of an average of 15 hours per week over the period of enrollment or 30 hours  
189 per week during vacation period. A student shall not be concurrently employed in the same  
190 position by the fund and the federal work-study program and exceed the 15 hours per week  
191 average.

192 (i) Students may receive academic credit for work experience gained through fund jobs.

193 (j) Students who fail to remain on target to graduate or earn a certificate in the regular  
194 duration of a full-time student may no longer be eligible for monies from the fund, subject to the  
195 discretion of the commissioner.

196 (k) Notwithstanding any general or special laws to the contrary, monies received from the  
197 Massachusetts TAFDC Career Pathways Trust Fund established in Section 2LLLL of chapter 29  
198 of the General Laws shall not count against a recipient's income, assets, or any other eligibility  
199 standard in qualifying for cash assistance benefits.

200 (l) The college and the board of higher education shall enter a memorandum of  
201 understanding to ensure that funds are properly expended and disbursed. The college shall enter  
202 into agreements with employers, community colleges, the department of transitional assistance,  
203 and others for the operation of the fund. These agreements shall include such provisions as the  
204 office may deem necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of this section. These  
205 agreements shall be made available to the board upon request.

206 SECTION 10. The second sentence of section 2SSS of chapter 29 of the General Laws,  
207 as appearing in the 2012 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting, in line 5, after the  
208 word "accredited", the words:- public or nonprofit.

209 SECTION 11. Section 2SSS of said chapter 29, as so appearing, is hereby amended by  
210 striking out the penultimate sentence, in lines 23-25, inclusive, and inserting in place thereof the  
211 following sentence:- The amount of the award shall be applied towards student financial need in  
212 excess of the financial need met by other federal and state grants without regard to the amount  
213 that may be available through loans.

214 SECTION 12. Paragraph (2) of section 2 of chapter 62 of the General Laws, as appearing  
215 in the 2012 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after subparagraph (Q) the  
216 following subparagraph:-

217 (R) Amounts received by an employee paid by the employer as contributions to a prepaid  
218 tuition program or college savings program established by the commonwealth or any  
219 instrumentality or authority thereof held by the employee if the contributions are made pursuant  
220 to section 82 of chapter 63 of the General Laws. The amount excluded from the gross income of  
221 an employee for the taxable year shall not exceed \$1,000.

222 SECTION 13. Paragraph (b) of Section 3 B of said chapter 62, as so appearing, is hereby  
223 amended by inserting after subparagraph (16) the following subparagraph:-

224 (17) In the case of single individual person or married person filing a separate return or  
225 a head of household whose gross income does not exceed \$150,000, either a deduction or a tax  
226 credit in an amount equal to the amount expended in a taxable year for the purchase of an interest  
227 in, or contributed in a taxable year to an account in, a prepaid tuition program or college savings  
228 program established by the commonwealth or any instrumentality or authority thereof; provided,  
229 that the total amount deducted in a taxable year shall not exceed \$5,000, and in the case of a tax  
230 credit, the tax credit shall not exceed \$1,250. In the case of a married couple filing a joint return

231 whose gross income does not exceed \$300,000, either a deduction or a tax credit in an amount  
232 equal to the amount expended in a taxable year for the purchase of an interest in, or contributed  
233 in a taxable year to an account in, a prepaid tuition program or college savings program  
234 established by the commonwealth or any instrumentality or authority thereof; provided, the total  
235 amount deducted in a taxable year shall not exceed \$10,000, and in the case of a tax credit, the  
236 tax credit shall not exceed \$2,500.

237 SECTION 14. Chapter 62 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after  
238 section 6N, the following section:-

239 Section 6O. A person filing an individual or joint return may elect to have any refund to  
240 which the person is entitled electronically deposited in an account in a prepaid tuition or college  
241 savings program established by the commonwealth or any instrumentality or authority thereof.

242 A deposit under this section may be made with respect to any taxable year at the time  
243 of filing a return of the tax established by this chapter for the taxable year. The commissioner  
244 shall prescribe the manner in which the deposit shall be made on the face of the return required  
245 by section 5 of chapter 62C. The commissioner shall consult with the Massachusetts  
246 Educational Financing Authority in carrying out this section.

247 SECTION 15. Chapter 63 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after  
248 section 81, the following section:-

249 Section 82. A taxpayer who, during the taxable year, makes a contribution to a prepaid  
250 tuition program or college savings program established by the commonwealth or any  
251 instrumentality or authority thereof in an amount matching a contribution to said programs made  
252 in the same taxable year by any employee of the taxpayer whose income does not exceed 200 per

253 cent of the federal poverty level shall be allowed a credit against the tax liability imposed under  
254 this chapter in an amount equal to 25 per cent of that matching contribution, but not to exceed  
255 \$1,000 per contributing employee per taxable year. For partners, shareholders of Subchapter S  
256 corporations, and owners of limited liability companies, if the liability company is treated as a  
257 partnership for purposes of federal and State income taxation, there is allowed a credit pursuant  
258 to this section to be determined in accordance with the determination of income and distributive  
259 share of income according to this chapter and Subchapter S of the Internal Revenue Code. If the  
260 amount of the credit exceeds the tax liability for the year, the excess may be carried forward and  
261 applied to the tax liability of the 5 taxable years following the excess credit year. The tax credit  
262 shall be applied to the earliest year for which there is a tax liability. If there are credits for more  
263 than one year that are available to offset a liability, the earlier credit shall be applied first.

264 SECTION 16. Chapter 69 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after  
265 section 1N the following section:-

266 Section 1O. To equip students with the knowledge and skills needed to become self-  
267 supporting and to enable students to make critical decisions regarding personal finances, the  
268 department of elementary and secondary education shall authorize and assist in the  
269 implementation of standards and objectives on personal financial literacy. The components of  
270 personal financial literacy covered in the standards and objectives shall include: understanding  
271 loans, borrowing money, interest, credit card debt, and online commerce; rights and  
272 responsibilities of renting or buying a home; saving, investing and planning for retirement;  
273 banking and financial services; balancing a checkbook; state and federal taxes; paying for  
274 postsecondary education; and charitable giving.



275           The department, in consultation with the advisory committee established under Section  
276 200 (b) of chapter 138 of the Acts of 2012, shall develop standards and objectives on personal  
277 financial literacy, for grades pre-kindergarten to 12, inclusive, within the existing mathematics  
278 curriculum for implementation by the start of the 2016-2017 school year. The department shall  
279 make available to school districts, charter schools, approved private day or residential schools,  
280 and collaborative schools a list of resources to aid in the selection of materials and curriculum on  
281 personal financial literacy. The department shall identify and offer information on cost-effective  
282 methods for fulfilling the professional development activities needed to implement said  
283 standards and objectives. The department may consult with private, nonprofit, or other  
284 government institutions in order to identify and offer said information. The department may  
285 apply for any federal, state, or other funding, including funding available through the Financial  
286 Literacy Trust Fund, as established by section 35QQ of chapter 10 of the General Laws, as  
287 amended by Chapter 14 of the Acts of 2011.

288           SECTION 17. Item 7066-0019 of section 2 of chapter 165 of the Acts of 2014, is hereby  
289 amended by inserting at the end thereof the following:- provided, further that funds appropriated  
290 herein shall remain available for expenditure until June 30, 2016; and in said item by striking out  
291 the figures “750,000” and inserting “4,250,000”.

292           SECTION 18. Item 7066-1221 of section 2 of chapter 165 of the Acts of 2014, is hereby  
293 amended by inserting at the end thereof the following:- ; provided, further that not less than  
294 \$1,500,000 shall be expended for matching grants for credit bearing vocationally oriented  
295 courses; provided, further that funds appropriated herein shall remain available for expenditure  
296 until June 30, 2016; and in said item by striking out the figures “1,450,000”, and inserting  
297 “2,950,000”.

298 SECTION 19. Item 7070-0066 of section 2 of chapter 165 of the Acts of 2014, as  
299 amended by Chapter 188 of the Acts of 2014, is hereby amended by inserting at the end thereof  
300 the following:- ; provided, further that not less than \$3,000,000 shall be expended on the  
301 scholarship program for in-demand professions; and provided, further that funds appropriated  
302 herein shall remain available for expenditure until June 30, 2016; and in said item by striking out  
303 the figures “2,000,000”, and inserting “3,000,000”.

304 SECTION 20. Section 2 of Chapter 165 of the Acts of 2014, is hereby amended by  
305 adding the following items:

306 Department of Transitional Assistance

307 4400-XXXX For education opportunity coordinators established in section 5 of chapter  
308 18 of the General Laws, as inserted by this act, to assist recipients of transitional aid to families  
309 with dependent children in earning a community college certificate or associate’s degree;  
310 provided, that funds appropriated herein shall remain available for expenditure until

311 June 30, 2016 ..... \$1,250,000

312 Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

313 XXXX-XXXX For the development and implementation of standards and curriculum  
314 on financial literacy; provided, that funds appropriated herein shall remain available for  
315 expenditure until June 30, 2016 .....\$1,000,000

316 Department of Higher Education

317 7066-0115 For the purposes of continuing the implementation of section 15E of chapter  
318 15A of the General Laws to encourage private fundraising by the commonwealth’s public

319 institutions of higher education for the endowment and capital outlay programs of those  
320 institutions; provided, that the board of higher education shall implement this program in a  
321 manner which ensures that each institution shall have an opportunity to secure matching funds  
322 from this item; provided further, that \$10,000,000 shall be allocated to the university of  
323 Massachusetts; provided further, that \$5,000,000 shall be allocated to state universities; provided  
324 further, that \$5,000,000 shall be allocated to community colleges; provided further, that if any  
325 funds allocated herein for disbursement to state universities and community colleges shall be  
326 unused, the remaining funds shall be made available to the university of Massachusetts; provided  
327 further, that, to the greatest extent possible, the state universities, community colleges, and the  
328 university of Massachusetts shall utilize the funds to increase the number of scholarship  
329 opportunities for students; and provided further, that funds appropriated herein shall remain  
330 available for expenditure until June 30, 2017 .....\$20,000,000

331       XXXX-XXXX For the Education Rewards Grant Program Fund established by section  
332 2SSS of chapter 29 of the General Laws; provided, that funds appropriated herein shall remain  
333 available for expenditure until June 30, 2016 ..... \$1,500,000

334       XXXX-XXXX For the Licensed Certified Social Worker Student Education Loan  
335 Repayment Pilot Program Trust Fund established by this act; provided, that funds appropriated  
336 herein shall remain available for expenditure until June 30, 2016 .....\$1,200,000

337       XXXX-XXXX For the Massachusetts Educational Financing Authority to assist in  
338 carrying out the early college planning and financing efforts being undertaken by the Authority,  
339 and the lower income family postsecondary education savings incentive matching grant pilot  
340 program established by this act; provided, that not less than \$1,500,000 shall be expended for the

341 lower income family postsecondary savings incentive matching grant pilot program and shall be  
342 credited to the Lower Income Family Postsecondary Education Savings Incentive Matching  
343 Grant Pilot Program Trust Fund established by this act ; provided, further that funds appropriated  
344 herein shall remain available for expenditure until

345           June 30, 2016 .....\$2,500,000

346           XXXX-XXXX For the Completion Grant Incentive Fund Pilot Program established by  
347 the board of higher education to increase the graduation and success rates of low income students  
348 who are enrolled in certificate or degree programs by providing incentive grants to persist and to  
349 complete their degree or certificate program of study over a maximum of four years; provided,  
350 further that funds appropriated herein shall remain available for expenditure until

351           June 30, 2016 .....\$3,000,000

352           XXXX-XXXX For a pilot program to be established by the Massachusetts Educational  
353 Financing Authority in accordance with section 5 of Chapter 15C of the General Laws to assist  
354 in refinancing higher education loans financed through the Authority that have higher interest  
355 rates; provided, further that funds appropriated herein shall remain available for expenditure until

356           June 30, 2016 .....\$10,000,000

357           XXXX-XXXX For the development and implementation of the transfer system required  
358 by section 9 (hh) of chapter 15A of the General Laws, as inserted by this act; provided, further  
359 that funds appropriated herein shall remain available for expenditure until

360           June 30, 2016 ..... \$2,500,000

361           XXXX-XXXX For a community colleges internship incentive grant program to be  
362 administered by the department of higher education; provided, that the commonwealth shall  
363 contribute funds to each community college in an amount to match private contributions in each  
364 fiscal year; provided further, that the commonwealth’s contribution shall be equal to \$1 for every  
365 \$1 privately contributed to each community college’s board of trustees or foundation; provided  
366 further, that the maximum total contribution from the commonwealth shall be no greater than the  
367 amount appropriated herein; provided further, that funds from this program shall not result in any  
368 direct or indirect reduction in the commonwealth’s appropriation to the institution’s operations,  
369 scholarships, financial aid or any state appropriation; provided further, the department of higher  
370 education shall establish guidelines and criteria for the administration of the program; and  
371 provided, further that funds appropriated herein shall remain available for expenditure until June  
372 30, 2016 .....\$2,000,000

373           Community Colleges

374           7516-XXXX For the TAFDC Career Pathways Trust Fund as established in section  
375 2LLLL of chapter 29 of the General Laws, as inserted by this act; provided, that the program  
376 shall be administered by the Middlesex Community College through its entity, the Massachusetts  
377 Community College Executive Office; provided further, that no more than \$100,000 shall be  
378 used to administer the program; and provided, further that funds appropriated herein shall remain  
379 available for expenditure until June 30, 2016 ..... \$1,100,000

380           SECTION 21. (a) There shall be a licensed certified social worker student education loan  
381 repayment pilot program, hereinafter referred to as the pilot program, for the purpose of  
382 increasing and retaining access to child welfare services and social services in the

383 commonwealth. The pilot program shall provide financial assistance to eligible program  
384 participants to assist them in repaying student education loans, as defined in this section;  
385 provided, that the pilot program shall be limited to a total of 100 licensed certified social  
386 workers. The pilot program shall be administered by the board of higher education established  
387 under section 4 of chapter 15A of the General Laws. The board, in collaboration with the  
388 executive office of health and human services, shall promulgate guidelines governing the pilot  
389 program. The guidelines shall include, but need not be limited to, the following provisions: (1)  
390 eligibility shall be limited to persons with incomes that do not exceed 500% of the federal  
391 poverty level; (2) eligibility shall be limited to persons entering the field of social work after July  
392 1, 2014; (3) eligibility shall be limited to social workers who are licensed certified social workers  
393 as defined in section 130 of chapter 112 of the General Laws and who are employed in child  
394 welfare, or in a geographic or programmatic setting defined as high need under the guidelines  
395 governing the pilot program; (4) the commonwealth shall repay a student education loan at a rate  
396 not to exceed \$250 per month for a period not to exceed 48 months; (5) payments by the  
397 commonwealth shall be made directly to the lender on behalf of a pilot program participant, and  
398 shall cover only loan payments owed by the participant in the months during which the  
399 participant works in the commonwealth as a licensed certified social worker in child welfare, or  
400 in a geographic or programmatic setting defined as high need under pilot program guidelines; (6)  
401 procedures for selecting 100 pilot program participants among eligible applicants; and (7)  
402 measures to deal with situations in which a pilot program participant ceases to comply with  
403 program requirements. For the purposes of this section, the term student education loan shall  
404 mean any indebtedness, including interest on such indebtedness, incurred to pay tuition, fees or  
405 other direct expenses incurred in connection with the pursuit of an undergraduate or graduate

406 degree by an applicant, but shall not include loans made by any person related to the applicant,  
407 or loans paid by credit card.

408 (b) There is hereby established and set up on the books of the commonwealth a separate  
409 fund to be known as the Licensed Certified Social Worker Student Education Loan Repayment  
410 Pilot Program Trust Fund, hereinafter referred to as the Licensed Certified Social Worker  
411 Education Loan Repayment Fund, to which shall be credited any appropriations or other monies  
412 authorized by the general court and designated to be credited thereto. The board of higher  
413 education shall hold the Licensed Certified Social Worker Education Loan Repayment Fund in  
414 an account separate from other funds or accounts. Amounts credited to the Licensed Certified  
415 Social Worker Education Loan Repayment Fund shall be used, without further appropriation, by  
416 the commissioner of higher education or his designee, to carry out the licensed certified social  
417 worker student education loan repayment pilot program established in this section.

418 (c) The licensed certified social worker student education loan repayment pilot program  
419 shall expire once the final payment is made under this section by the board of higher education  
420 on behalf of all pilot program participants. The board of higher education shall evaluate the  
421 effectiveness of the pilot program and its benefits and costs to the commonwealth and shall  
422 submit a report, together with its recommendations on whether a permanent program should be  
423 established and if so how such program should be structured, to the house and senate committees  
424 on ways and means and the joint committee on higher education, not less than one year prior to  
425 the expiration of the pilot program.

426 SECTION 22. (a) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, a portion  
427 of the Educational Rewards Grant Program Fund established by section 2SSS of chapter 29 of

428 the General Laws, as determined by the department of workforce development and the board of  
429 higher education, shall be used for a “Supports for Success” pilot program to assist grant  
430 recipients complete their degree or certificate programs; provided, that supports provided  
431 through said pilot may include, but need not be limited to, intensive advising and counseling,  
432 college and career success courses, work study jobs in the students’ field of study, learning  
433 communities, curricula redesign to support blended or accelerated remediation, mentoring or  
434 tutoring, and child care and transportation assistance.

435 (b) On or before December 1 of each year, the department of workforce development  
436 and the board of higher education shall submit to the the chairs of house and senate committees  
437 on ways and means and the chairs of the joint committee on higher education a report on use in  
438 the prior fiscal year of the Educational Rewards Grant Program Fund established by section  
439 2SSS of chapter 29 of the General Laws; provided, that such report shall include, but need not be  
440 limited to, the number of grants awarded, the amount of each grant, the level of educational  
441 attainment of grant recipients before the grant was awarded, degrees and certificates awarded to  
442 recipients, recipient demographic information, recipient retention rates while receiving the grant,  
443 and analysis of the strengths and areas of needed improvement in the Educational Rewards Grant  
444 Program and the “Supports for Success” pilot program and recommendations for such  
445 improvements.

446 SECTION 23. (a) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the board  
447 of higher education shall establish a pilot program to promote student employment partnerships  
448 between graduates of public and private institutions of higher education in the state and the  
449 state’s business community. The board shall establish rules and regulations governing the  
450 implementation and administration of the pilot program, including, but not limited to, any



451 income eligibility requirements for participating students. The pilot program shall consist of not  
452 more than 3 public institutions of higher education and not more than 2 private institutions of  
453 higher education in the state, and not more than 5 business entities in the state selected by the  
454 board of higher education in consultation with the secretary of housing and economic  
455 development. Business entities may consist of, but need not be limited to, employers from the  
456 financial services, life sciences, high technology, and health care industries. Not more than 100  
457 students may participate in the pilot program. Students eligible to participate in the program  
458 shall be in good academic standing at one of the institutions selected to participate in the  
459 program, and must have obtained fifty percent or more of the credits needed to graduate.

460 (b) Business entities selected to participate in the pilot program shall supplement a  
461 percentage of a participating student's tuition and fees, and in providing this assistance shall  
462 receive a 20% state income tax credit on the first \$5,000 of tuition and fees paid by the  
463 participating business entity. In exchange for receiving tuition and fee assistance from a  
464 participating entity, graduating students shall agree to work in the state for the business entity for  
465 an agreed upon period of time, which shall not exceed 24 months. In the event a participating  
466 student is unable to perform work for the business entity upon graduation, the student shall  
467 refund all or a portion of the financial assistance provided by the business entity, unless the  
468 student's failure to perform is based upon a condition or conditions set forth by the board,  
469 including, but not limited to, the inability of the business entity to provide the agreed upon  
470 employment. If upon a participating student's graduation, the business entity is not able to  
471 provide the agreed upon employment for the student, the business entity shall reimburse the state  
472 for the amount of the tax credit the business entity received for the student.

473 (c) Not later than 3 years after the commencement of the pilot program, the board of  
474 higher education shall file a report with the house and senate committee on ways and means, and  
475 the joint committees on higher education, and revenue detailing the results of the pilot program  
476 and any recommendations as to whether the program should be continued or expanded.

477 SECTION 24. (a) As used in this section, the following words shall, unless the context  
478 otherwise requires, have the following meanings:

479 (1) "Application", an application for a matching grant under the pilot program.

480 (2) "Authority", the Massachusetts Educational Financing Authority established under  
481 Chapter 803 of the Acts of 1982, as amended.

482 (3) "Federal poverty level", the most recent poverty income guidelines published in  
483 the calendar year by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

484 (4) "Participant", a qualified individual or family who has been approved for a  
485 matching grant under the pilot program.

486 (5) "Pilot Program", the lower income family postsecondary education savings  
487 incentive matching grant pilot program established by this section.

488 (6) "Qualified individual or family", an individual or family who resides within the  
489 state of Massachusetts and whose household income is not more than 250% of the federal  
490 poverty level for the tax year prior to the year in which the application is submitted.

491 (b) There shall be a lower income family postsecondary education savings incentive  
492 matching grant pilot program. The purpose of the pilot program is to help lower income  
493 individuals and families save for postsecondary education through prepaid tuition programs or

494 college savings accounts established by the Authority by providing a state matching grant for the  
495 savings.

496 (c) The Authority shall:

497 (1) Implement and administer the pilot program;

498 (2) Develop marketing plans and promotional material for the pilot program;

499 (3) Prescribe the procedure for, and requirements relating to, the submission and  
500 approval of applications;

501 (4) Do all things necessary and proper to carry out the purposes of this section; and

502 (5) Adopt any rules and regulations and policies deemed necessary for  
503 implementation and administration of the pilot program.

504 (d) Applications shall be submitted to the Authority in the manner and form required by  
505 the Authority. Applications shall be accompanied by any information deemed necessary by the  
506 Authority. Applications, with proof of income, must be submitted each year using the applicant's  
507 household income from the previous tax year.

508 (e) The Authority may approve up to a total of 250 applications. Applications shall be  
509 approved on a first come, first served basis. The Authority shall provide written notice, to an  
510 applicant, of the approval or non-approval of the person's application.

511 (f) The amount of contributions made to an account by a participant who establishes a  
512 prepaid tuition program or college savings account with the Authority shall be matched by the  
513 state if the participant contributes at least \$150 during the calendar year for which the application

514 has been approved. The aggregate of all matching amounts for any participant shall not exceed  
515 \$1,000 in any calendar year.

516 (g) The Authority shall deposit in the prepaid tuition program or college savings account  
517 of each participant the amount determined by the Authority to meet the matching obligation due  
518 to the participant under subsection (f) for the preceding calendar year.

519 (h) The Authority shall ensure that all withdrawals of matching funds are used for  
520 postsecondary education.

521 (i) Not later than 5 years after the commencement of the pilot program, the Authority  
522 shall submit to the secretary of administration and finance, the house and senate committees on  
523 ways and means, and the joint committee on higher education a report evaluating the impact of  
524 the pilot program. The report shall include the number of accounts opened under the pilot  
525 program, the amount of moneys contributed to accounts by the participants, the average income  
526 of the participants, an analysis of the success of the pilot program in meeting the purpose of the  
527 pilot program, a recommendation as to whether the pilot program should be continued or  
528 expanded, and any other information deemed appropriate by the Authority.

529 (j) Notwithstanding any general or special laws to the contrary, monies deposited in a  
530 prepaid tuition program or college savings account established under this section shall not count  
531 against any recipient's income, assets, or any other eligibility standard in qualifying for any  
532 benefits under Transitional Aid to Families with Dependent Children, or other state programs.

533 (k) There is hereby established and set up on the books of the commonwealth a separate  
534 fund to be known as the Lower Income Family Postsecondary Education Savings Incentive  
535 Matching Grant Pilot Program Trust Fund, hereinafter referred to as the fund, to which shall be

536 credited any appropriations, bond proceeds or other monies authorized by the general court and  
537 specifically designated to be credited thereto. The Authority, shall hold the fund in an account or  
538 accounts separate from other funds or accounts. Amounts credited to the fund shall be used by  
539 the Authority, without further appropriation, to carry out the lower income family postsecondary  
540 education savings incentive matching grant pilot program. Appropriations unexpended at the  
541 end of the fiscal year shall remain in the fund and may be expended by the Authority without  
542 further appropriation.

543           SECTION 25. The department of higher education shall study and make  
544 recommendations on the “Pay It Forward, Pay It Back” concept for financing postsecondary  
545 education whereby, in lieu of paying any tuition or fees, students would sign a binding  
546 commitment to pay the state or the state’s public higher educational institutions a certain  
547 percentage of their annual income for a specified number of years following graduation. The  
548 study shall examine the desirability and feasibility of establishing a program to implement the  
549 concept in the commonwealth at the state’s public higher education institutions, and shall  
550 include, but not be limited to, the following: the costs, sources of funding, including, but not  
551 limited, state appropriations, use of state bond funds, or pooling of private investment funds,  
552 impact on students, and the impact on existing state funding for the operation of the state’s  
553 public higher education institutions, and on state scholarships and grants. The department shall  
554 also ascertain the impact any state laws, including, but not limited to, the state constitution and  
555 case law regarding annual appropriations of state funds, pledge of the commonwealth’s credit,  
556 and the ability of one legislature to bind future legislatures would have on the feasibility of a  
557 establishing and funding a program to implement the concept in the state. In so doing, the  
558 department shall consult with persons it deems necessary, including, but not limited to, the

559 state's bond counsel and the Massachusetts Educational Financing Authority. The department  
560 shall report its findings and recommendations to the board of higher education, the joint  
561 committee on higher education, and the house and senate committees on ways and means on or  
562 before December 31, 2015.

563 SECTION 26. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the  
564 commonwealth shall appropriate in addition to the amounts provided for the ordinary  
565 maintenance of the university of Massachusetts, the state universities, and the community  
566 colleges in line items 7100-0200, 7109-0100, 7110-0100, 7112-0100, 7113-0100, 7114-0100,  
567 7115-0100, 7116-0100, 7117-0100, 7118-0100, 7502-0100, 7503-0100, 7504-0100, 7505-0100,  
568 7506-0100, 7507-0100, 7508-0100, 7509-0100, 7510-0100, 7511-0100, 7512-0100, 7514-0100,  
569 7515-0100, 7516-0100, 7518-0100 in the general appropriations act for fiscal year 2015, the total  
570 amount of such appropriations shall be increased as follows: in fiscal year 2016, by a total of not  
571 less than an additional \$95,000,000; in fiscal year 2017, by a total of not less than an additional  
572 \$95,000,000; in fiscal year 2018, by a total of not less than an additional \$95,000,000; in fiscal  
573 year 2019, by a total of not less than an additional \$95,000,000; and in fiscal year 2020, by a  
574 total of not less than an additional \$95,000,000. The dollar amounts specified in this paragraph  
575 shall be increased to reflect any increases in inflation and collective bargaining increases. If the  
576 additional funds required under this paragraph are provided in each fiscal year to the university  
577 of Massachusetts, the state universities, and the community colleges, each institution receiving  
578 sufficient additional funding shall freeze tuition and mandatory curriculum fee increases for the  
579 academic year during which the funding is provided.

580 SECTION 27. Notwithstanding any general or special laws to the contrary, the  
581 commonwealth shall appropriate in addition to the amount provided for scholarships and

582 financial aid in line item 7070-0065 in the general appropriations act for fiscal year 2015, the  
583 total amount of such appropriation shall be increased as follows: in fiscal year 2016, by a total  
584 of not less than an additional \$42,000,000; in fiscal year 2017, by a total of not less than an  
585 additional \$42,000,000; in fiscal year 2018, by a total of not less than an additional \$42,000,000;  
586 in fiscal year 2019, by a total of not less than an additional \$42,000,000; and in fiscal year 2020,  
587 by a total of not less than an additional \$42,000,000. The additional funding required by this  
588 paragraph shall be made available for the so-called MASSGrant program administered by the  
589 board of higher education.

590 SECTION 28. The house and senate committees on ways and means, in consultation  
591 with the presidents of the state universities, the board of higher education, the executive office  
592 for administration and finance, and the joint committee on higher education, shall develop a  
593 funding formula to determine the allocation of state appropriations in the annual state budget to  
594 the individual state universities. The formula shall consist of two parts: base funding and  
595 performance funding. Base funding shall be based upon and allocated on factors relating to  
596 enrollment and the cost of education. Performance funding shall be based upon and allocated on  
597 factors relating to outcomes. The outcome afforded the most weight for performance funding  
598 shall be increasing the number of students who complete their degrees; provided that, additional  
599 points shall be given for graduating students who might have been considered at-risk of not  
600 completing their education, including students from lower income households, African-  
601 Americans students, Latino students, adult students, students with severe disabilities, and those  
602 who may have been less academically prepared upon entry. Additional performance outcomes  
603 as deemed relevant may be included in the formula. The funding formula may be updated as

604 needed from time to time, and shall be available for use commencing with the fiscal year 2016  
605 annual budget.

606 SECTION 29. The president of the university of Massachusetts, in consultation with the  
607 chair of the board of trustees of the university and the chancellors of the campuses, shall develop  
608 a funding formula to determine the allocation of state appropriations received by the university in  
609 the annual state budget to the individual campuses that includes, but is not limited to,  
610 performance funding. Performance funding shall be based upon and allocated on factors relating  
611 to outcomes. The outcome afforded the most weight for performance funding shall be increasing  
612 the number of students who complete their degrees; provided that, additional points shall be  
613 given for graduating students who might have been considered at-risk of not completing their  
614 education, including students from lower income households, African-American students, Latino  
615 students, adult students, students with severe disabilities, and those who may have been less  
616 academically prepared upon entry. Additional performance outcomes may be included in the  
617 formula as deemed relevant to the mission of the university.

618 SECTION 30. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, all tuition  
619 received by the board of trustees of the university of Massachusetts paid by students attending  
620 the University of Massachusetts at Worcester who reside in the state shall be retained by the  
621 board of trustees in a revolving trust fund and shall be expended as the administration of the  
622 University of Massachusetts at Worcester directs in accordance with regulations established by  
623 the board. Any balance in the trust fund at the close of the fiscal years shall be available for  
624 expenditures in subsequent fiscal years and shall not revert to the General Fund. For any  
625 employees of the University of Massachusetts at Worcester who are paid from tuition retained  
626 pursuant to this section, fringe benefits shall be funded as if those employees' salaries were



627 supported by state appropriations. This section shall apply only to fringe benefits associated  
628 with salaries paid from tuition retained by the board of trustees of the University of  
629 Massachusetts as a direct result of the implementation of this section.

630 SECTION 31. To provide for a program of capital improvements to public higher  
631 education institutions to provide support for these institutions in carrying out their educational  
632 missions and to enhance regional economic development through their educational initiatives,  
633 the sums set forth in this section, for the several purposes and subject to the conditions specified  
634 in this act, are hereby made available, subject to the laws regulating the disbursement of public  
635 funds, which sums shall be in addition to any other amounts previously appropriated for these  
636 purposes.

637 EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

638 Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance

639 7066-XXXX For costs associated with planning and studies, dispositions, acquisition of  
640 land and buildings and interests therein by purchase or by eminent domain under chapter 79 of  
641 the General Laws and for the preparation of plans and specifications, repairs, construction,  
642 renovations, improvements, maintenance and repair, asset management and demolition at the  
643 state universities and community college campus facilities and grounds; provided, that all  
644 projects approved for design and construction by the division of capital asset management and  
645 maintenance for the state universities and community colleges shall be consistent in priority and  
646 need with capital master plans developed by the division of capital asset management and  
647 maintenance, in consultation with the presidents of the state universities and community colleges  
648 and approved by the board of higher education; and provided further, that all maintenance and

649 repair work funded by this item shall be included in the capital asset management information  
650 system administered by the division of capital asset management.....\$2,100,000,000

651           7100-XXXX For costs associated with planning and studies, dispositions, acquisition of  
652 land and buildings and interests therein by purchase or by eminent domain under chapter 79 of  
653 the General Laws and for the preparation of plans and specifications, repairs, construction,  
654 renovations, improvements, maintenance and repair, asset management and demolition at the  
655 university of Massachusetts campus facilities and grounds; provided, that all projects approved  
656 for design and construction by the division of capital asset management and maintenance for the  
657 university of Massachusetts shall be consistent in priority and need with capital master plans  
658 developed by the university of Massachusetts and approved by the board of trustees of the  
659 university of Massachusetts; and provided further, that all maintenance and repair work funded  
660 by this item shall be included in the capital asset management information system administered  
661 by the division of capital asset management.....\$2,100,000,000

662           SECTION 32. To meet the expenditures necessary in carrying out section 31, the state  
663 treasurer shall, upon request of the governor, issue and sell bonds of the commonwealth in an  
664 amount to be specified by the governor from time to time but not exceeding, in the aggregate,  
665 \$4,200,000,000. All bonds issued by the commonwealth as aforesaid shall be designated on their  
666 face, Public Higher Education Capital Expenditure Act of 2015, and shall be issued for a  
667 maximum term of years, not exceeding 30 years, as the governor may recommend to the general  
668 court under section 3 of Article LXII of the Amendments to the Constitution. The bonds shall be  
669 payable not later than June 30, 2054. All interest and payments on account of principal on these  
670 obligations shall be payable from the General Fund. Bonds and interest on bonds issued under

671 this section shall, notwithstanding any other provision of this act, be general obligations of the  
672 commonwealth.

673 SECTION 33. The secretary of administration and finance shall submit a report on the  
674 progress and all expenditures related to any projects funded through the authorizations in Section  
675 31 of this act to the secretary of education, the board of higher education, the chairs of the senate  
676 and house committees on ways and means, the senate and house chairs of the joint committee on  
677 higher education, and the chairs of the committees on Bonding, Capital Expenditures and State  
678 Assets. The report shall include, but not be limited to: the total amount appropriated for each  
679 project; the total estimated cost of each project; the amount expended for the planning and design  
680 of each project up to the time the report is filed; the amount expended on construction of each  
681 project up to the time the report is filed; the total amount currently expended on each project; the  
682 estimated lifetime maintenance schedule and cost of each project; the original estimated  
683 completion date of each project; and the current anticipated completion date of each project.  
684 The report shall be submitted on December 31 of each year for a period of 10 years from the  
685 effective date of this act.

686 SECTION 34. (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of any general or special law to the  
687 contrary, not later than the start of the fall semester of 2016 and for each semester thereafter, if a  
688 public institution of higher education determines, by use of multiple commonly accepted  
689 measures of skill level, that a student is likely to succeed in college level work with supplemental  
690 support, the public institution of higher education shall offer the student remedial support that is  
691 embedded with the corresponding entry level course in a college level program. The embedded  
692 support shall be offered during the same semester as and in conjunction with the entry level  
693 course for purposes of providing the student with supplemental support in the entry level course.

694 (b) Not later than the start of the fall semester of 2016 and for each semester thereafter, if  
695 a public institution of higher education determines, by use of multiple commonly accepted  
696 measures of skill level, that a student is below the skill level required for success in college level  
697 work, the public institution of higher education shall offer the student the opportunity to  
698 participate in an intensive college readiness program before the start of the next semester. The  
699 student shall complete the intensive college readiness program prior to receiving embedded  
700 remedial support, as provided in subsection (a) of this section. The board of higher education, in  
701 consultation with the university of Massachusetts, the state universities, and the community  
702 colleges, shall develop options for an intensive college readiness program.

703 (c) Not later than the start of the fall semester of 2016 and for each semester thereafter,  
704 no public institution of higher education shall offer any remedial support, including remedial  
705 courses, that is not embedded with the corresponding entry level course, as required pursuant to  
706 subsection (a) of this section, or offered as part of an intensive college readiness program, except  
707 the institution may offer a student a maximum of one semester of remedial support that is not  
708 embedded, provided (1) the support is intended to advance the student toward earning a degree,  
709 and (2) the program of remedial support is approved by the board of higher education.

710 (d) Not later than the start of the fall semester of 2017 and for each semester thereafter,  
711 board of higher education and the board of elementary and secondary education shall complete  
712 curricular alignment to enable the successful completion of the high school mathematics and  
713 language arts curricula, as described in Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks for English  
714 Language Arts/Literacy and Mathematics as adopted by the board of elementary and secondary  
715 education, to be the indicator of readiness for college level work. A public institution of higher  
716 education may use available evaluation instruments to assess adults, who are returning to or first

717 enrolling in a higher education program at a public institution of higher education after spending  
718 time in the workforce, for readiness for college level work.

719 (e) Not later than the start of the school year commencing July 1, 2016, and for each  
720 school year thereafter, the board of higher education shall ensure that each public institution of  
721 higher education works with the department of elementary of secondary education and the local  
722 and regional school districts to (1) use available evaluation methods for early assessment of the  
723 potential for college readiness of each student enrolled in the eighth and tenth grades in a public  
724 school, and (2) share the results of the assessment with the student, the student's parents or legal  
725 guardian and the public school in which the student is enrolled.