

SENATE No. 245

PRESENTED BY:

Kenneth J. Donnelly

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 homeless children school transportation.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Kenneth J. Donnelly

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Fourth Middlesex

SENATE No. 245

By Mr. Donnelly, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 245) of Kenneth J. Donnelly for legislation relative to reimbursement for transportation costs for homeless students. Education.

**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
(2017-2018)**

An Act relative to homeless children school transportation.

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 71 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2014 Official Edition,
2 is hereby amended by inserting after section 16C the following section:-

3 Section 16C 1/2. The school district shall provide transportation for children and youth
4 experiencing homelessness, as defined by the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, and
5 the commonwealth shall reimburse such district the cost to provide said transportation minus the
6 amount of any federal allocation to districts to defray the excess cost of providing transportation
7 to students experiencing homelessness. The state treasurer shall annually, on or before November
8 20, pay to school districts, subject to appropriation, the sums required for such reimbursement
9 and approved by the commissioner of education.

10 School districts may establish a Homeless Children and Youth School Transportation
11 Reimbursement Fund. Reimbursements made by the commonwealth pursuant to this section may
12 be deposited into the fund and may carry forward for 1 fiscal year. Reimbursements made by the
13 commonwealth pursuant to this section may be deposited into the fund to immediately reimburse

- 14 the school department for said costs; provided that, any unexpended funds shall be allowed to be
- 15 carried forward for 1 fiscal year.