

SENATE No. 344

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Dean A. Tran

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 providing school transportation to homeless children.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Dean A. Tran</i>	<i>Worcester and Middlesex</i>	
<i>Rebecca L. Rausch</i>	<i>Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex</i>	<i>1/30/2019</i>

SENATE No. 344

By Mr. Tran, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 344) of Dean A. Tran and Rebecca L. Rausch for legislation relative to reimbursement for transportation costs for homeless students. Education.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 245 OF 2017-2018.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court
(2019-2020)**

An Act providing school transportation to homeless children.

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 2016 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.