

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 2759**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr.*

*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 teachers' retirement credits for parochial schools.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr.</i>	<i>12th Hampden</i>	<i>2/1/2021</i>
<i>Colleen M. Garry</i>	<i>36th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/1/2021</i>
<i>Brian M. Ashe</i>	<i>2nd Hampden</i>	<i>2/1/2021</i>
<i>Joseph D. McKenna</i>	<i>18th Worcester</i>	<i>2/1/2021</i>
<i>Bud L. Williams</i>	<i>11th Hampden</i>	<i>2/3/2021</i>
<i>David F. DeCoste</i>	<i>5th Plymouth</i>	<i>2/23/2021</i>
<i>Natalie M. Higgins</i>	<i>4th Worcester</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 2759**

By Mr. Puppolo of Springfield, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2759) of Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr., and others for legislation to provide creditable service for retirement purposes for teaching in parochial schools or in public or private academies. Public Service.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court  
(2021-2022)**

An Act relative to teachers' retirement credits for parochial 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. Section 3 of chapter 32 of the General Laws as appearing in the 2004  
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after subdivision (4A) the following seven  
3 subdivisions: -

4 (4B) Parochial school or public or private academy. A member who taught in a parochial  
5 school or in a public or private academy may purchase up to 10 years of service credit for that  
6 service under subdivisions (4C) to (4H), inclusive.

7 (4C) The member shall have taught in a school approved by the department of education  
8 or the education department of another state while holding an appropriate teaching certificate.

9 (4D) The member shall before any retirement benefit becomes effective for that member,  
10 make contributions into the members retirement fund, for the years of private or parochial school  
11 teaching on the same basis as the member would have made contributions had the service been  
12 as a state employee or teacher in the Commonwealth, including interest at a rate to be set by the

13 board not to exceed regular interest by more than five percentage points. The member's earnings  
14 for the years of private or parochial school teaching must be assumed to have been the same as  
15 the average salary for teachers in the Commonwealth as determined by the department of  
16 education for each of the years when the private or parochial school teaching took place. Interest  
17 shall be computed beginning at the end of the year when those contributions would have been  
18 made, if the service had been as a state employee or teacher in the Commonwealth, to the date of  
19 payment. Payment must be made by a single direct payment or annual direct payments to the  
20 retirement system in accordance with subdivision (4A).

21 (4E) The member shall have begun membership before January 1, 1976.

22 (4F) The member's last ten years of creditable service before the date of retirement must  
23 be as a state employee or teacher in the Commonwealth.

24 (4G) Upon completion payment of the contributions under subdivision (4D) the member  
25 shall be granted service credit for the period of time for which the contributions have been made.  
26 Upon making partial payment of the contributions under subdivision (4D) the member shall be  
27 granted service credit on a pro rata basis in accordance with rules adopted by the board.

28 (4H) Alternative. In the determination of the retirement benefit under this subdivision, if  
29 service credit for private or parochial school teaching is not allowed under (4C) or (4E)  
30 additional service credit for private or parochial school teaching is allowed for any member who  
31 meets the requirements of subdivisions (4B) and (4F) if the member, before any retirement  
32 benefit becomes effective for that member, pays into the member's retirement fund, by a single  
33 direct payment or annual direct payments to the retirement system, an amount equal to the

34 contributions he would have otherwise paid into the retirement system for said period together  
35 with regular interest thereon.

36 Annual payments shall be made in accordance with subdivision (4A).