

SENATE No. 2015

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Harriette L. Chandler

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 limiting the impact of student loans to help staff succeed.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Harriette L. Chandler</i>	<i>First Worcester</i>	
<i>Mary S. Keefe</i>	<i>15th Worcester</i>	<i>3/19/2021</i>
<i>Rebecca L. Rausch</i>	<i>Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex</i>	<i>6/11/2021</i>

SENATE No. 2015

By Ms. Chandler, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2015) of Harriette L. Chandler and Mary S. Keefe for legislation to limit the impact of student loans to help staff succeed. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act limiting the impact of student loans to help staff succeed.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Chapter 3 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2018 Official Edition, is hereby
2 amended by inserting after section 71, the following sections:-

3 Section 72. (a) The general court shall establish, with the approval of the presiding
4 officers of the 2 branches of the general court, a program under which the senate, house of
5 representatives, or general court may agree to repay, by direct payment on behalf of an
6 employee, student loans previously taken out by an employee. For purposes of this section, a
7 Member of the general court shall not be considered to be an employee of the Senate or House of
8 Representatives.

9 (b) The general court or an administrative authority thereof shall promulgate such
10 guidelines as may be necessary to carry out the program under this section, and may include
11 limitations on the type of student loans covered and on the maximum payment that may be
12 available to any one individual.

13 (c) The administration of the program authorized in this section shall be funded by
14 appropriations directed to the general court, or a branch thereof, subject to appropriation.

15 Section 73. (a) The general court shall establish, with the approval of the presiding
16 officers of the 2 branches of the general court, biannual review of employee compensation. Such
17 base compensation shall be re-evaluated to ensure employee pay keeps pace with the median
18 household income for the commonwealth for the preceding two-year period.