

SENATE No. 836

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Adam Gomez

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 to support educational opportunity for all.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Adam Gomez</i>	<i>Hampden</i>	
<i>Jack Patrick Lewis</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/25/2021</i>
<i>Maria Duaime Robinson</i>	<i>6th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/25/2021</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	<i>3/4/2021</i>
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>	<i>3/23/2021</i>

SENATE No. 836

By Mr. Gomez, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 836) of Adam Gomez, Jack Patrick Lewis, Maria Duaine Robinson, James B. Eldridge and others for legislation to support educational opportunity for all. Higher Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act to support educational opportunity for all.

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 63 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2018 Official Edition,
2 is hereby amended by inserting after section 38HH the following section:

3 Section 38II. (a) Any private institution of higher learning that has an endowment fund
4 with aggregate funds in excess of \$1,000,000,000 shall be subject to an annual excise of 2.5 per
5 cent of all monies in aggregate in said endowment fund. For the purposes of this section an
6 endowment fund shall be an institutional fund, which may consist of multiple funds, of a private
7 institution of higher learning not wholly expendable by the institution on a current basis under
8 the terms of the applicable gift instrument. All monies collected from this annual excise shall be
9 deposited in the Educational Opportunity for All Trust Fund as established by subsection (b) of
10 this section.

11 (b) There is hereby established and set up on the books of the commonwealth a separate
12 fund to be known as the Educational Opportunity for All Trust Fund, hereinafter called the fund.

The fund shall be administered by the executive office of education, as directed by the Educational Opportunity for All Trust Fund Board of Trustees established in subsection (c) of this act, and in consultation with the department of higher education and the department of early education and care. The fund shall be used exclusively for the purposes of subsidizing the cost of higher education, early education and child care for lower-income and middle-class residents of the commonwealth. No expenditure from the fund shall cause the fund to be in deficiency at the close of a fiscal year. Any funds not expended by said Board of Trustees at the end of each fiscal year shall remain in such fund and shall not revert to the General Fund.

(c) The Educational Opportunity for All Trust Fund shall be managed by a board to be known as the Educational Opportunity for All Trust Fund Board of Trustees, hereby established, which shall have general supervision of the trust and shall direct all expenditures from the fund. The full duties and obligations of the board shall be set forth in a declaration of trust to be adopted by the board. The board of trustees shall consist of 7 trustees, including the commissioner of the department of higher education or a designee, the commissioner of the department of early education & care or a designee, and 5 additional trustees, 1 of whom shall have demonstrated expertise in higher education appointed by the President of the Senate, 1 of whom shall have demonstrated expertise in early education and child care appointed by the Speaker of the House, 1 of whom shall have demonstrated expertise in representing the child care workforce as a leader in a labor organization appointed by the President of the Senate, 1 of whom shall be an employee of a Massachusetts community college as defined in section 10 of Chapter 15A appointed by the Speaker of the House, and 1 of whom shall be an employee of a private institution of higher learning subject to the annual excise tax established in subsection (a) of this section appointed by the secretary of education. The appointed trustees shall serve for

- 36 terms of two years. Trustees shall be eligible for reappointment. The members of the board shall
- 37 elect 1 of the trustees to serve as the chair.