

HOUSE No. 1453

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

David M. Rogers

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 establishing a fund to further educational opportunities for caregivers to adults with disabilities.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>David M. Rogers</i>	<i>24th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/16/2025</i>
<i>Robyn K. Kennedy</i>	<i>First Worcester</i>	<i>3/12/2025</i>
<i>Vanna Howard</i>	<i>17th Middlesex</i>	<i>7/21/2025</i>

HOUSE No. 1453

By Representative Rogers of Cambridge, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1453) of David M. Rogers for legislation to establish within the Board of Higher Education a fund to further educational opportunities for caregivers to adults with disabilities. Higher Education.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 1285 OF 2023-2024.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court
(2025-2026)**

An Act establishing a fund to further educational opportunities for caregivers to adults with disabilities.

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 29 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the following
2 section:- Section 2RRRRR. (a) There shall be established within the board of higher education,
3 hereinafter the board, a separate fund to be known as the Caregiver to Adults with Disabilities
4 Fund. The fund shall be credited with: (1) revenue from appropriations or other money
5 authorized by the general court and specifically designated to be credited to the fund; (2) interest
6 earned on such revenue; and (3) funds from public and private sources and other gifts, grants and
7 donations. All amounts credited to the fund shall be used solely for activities and expenditures
8 consistent with the public purpose of the fund as set forth in subsection (b), including the
9 ordinary and necessary expenses of administration and operation associated with the fund. All
10 amounts credited to the fund shall be held in trust and shall be available for expenditure, without

11 further appropriation, by the board. Any unexpended balance in the fund at the close of a fiscal
12 year shall remain in the fund and shall be available for expenditure in subsequent fiscal years.

13 Annually, not later than December 1, the board shall issue a report to the clerks of the
14 house of representatives and the senate, the chairs of the house and senate committees on ways
15 and means, the chairs of the joint committee on education and the chairs of the joint committee
16 on children, families and persons with disabilities on the fund's activities including, but not
17 limited to, amounts credited to the fund, amounts expended from the fund and any unexpended
18 balance.

19 (b) The board shall make expenditures from the fund for the purpose of furthering the
20 educational opportunities of those who serve as caregivers to adults with disabilities by
21 subsidizing tuition and fees for community college courses at eligible postsecondary institutions.

22 (c) The board shall promulgate regulations to effectuate the purposes of this section.

23 SECTION 2. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, not later than 14
24 days after the effective date of this act, the state comptroller shall transfer from the General Fund
25 \$4,125,000 to the Caregiver to Adults with Disabilities Fund established in section 46 of chapter
26 15A.