

HOUSE No. 676

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Adrienne Pusateri Ramos and Dawne Shand

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 studying the financing of chapter 74 vocational-technical and agricultural school capital improvements.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Adrienne Pusateri Ramos</i>	<i>14th Essex</i>	<i>1/17/2025</i>
<i>Dawne Shand</i>	<i>1st Essex</i>	<i>1/17/2025</i>

HOUSE No. 676

By Representatives Ramos of North Andover and Shand of Newburyport, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 676) of Adrienne Pusateri Ramos and Dawne Shand that the Executive Office of Education study the financing of capital improvements in facilities providing primarily vocational-technical education or agricultural education. Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act studying the financing of chapter 74 vocational-technical and agricultural school capital improvements.

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. The executive office of education, in coordination with the Massachusetts
2 School Building Authority established pursuant to section 1A of chapter 70B of the General
3 Laws, shall conduct a study into the current state of financing related to capital improvements in
4 facilities providing primarily vocational-technical education or agricultural education, as defined
5 in section 2 of chapter 74 of the General Laws. The study shall include, but not be limited to, an
6 analysis of: (i) the feasibility of establishing a tiered reimbursement formula that separately
7 considers the costs and inherent capital needs of: (A) elementary and middle schools; (B)
8 comprehensive high schools; and (C) vocational-technical or agricultural schools; (ii) summary
9 information related to the fiscal impacts on cities or towns which are served by a regional
10 vocational-technical or agricultural school established pursuant to section 4 of said chapter 74 of
11 the General Laws and which have undertaken a project of capital improvement in the preceding

12 5 years, whether such project received any financial assistance from the Massachusetts School
13 Building Authority; (iii) campaign finance reporting obligations pursuant to any general or
14 special law or association regulations, rules or guidelines applicable to local approval for capital
15 projects impacting a vocational-technical or agricultural school, including, but not limited to: (A)
16 whether reported expenditures align with reasonably observed campaign activities; and (B)
17 whether there are disparate expenditures reported related to capital projects involving vocational-
18 technical or agricultural schools and comparable capital projects involving comprehensive high
19 schools. As part of the study, the office shall, as needed, consult with the department of
20 elementary and secondary education, the department of labor and workforce development as
21 relates to current labor rates in the construction industry, the department of agricultural resources
22 as related to current workforce needs in the agricultural sector and the office of campaign and
23 political finance. The office shall report on its findings and submit any recommendations to the
24 Massachusetts School Building Authority, the clerks of the house of representatives and the
25 senate, the joint committee on education and the joint committee on election laws not later than 6
26 months after enactment; provided, however, that the secretary of education may grant up to 1
27 extension of not more than 3 months.

28 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon enactment.