

SENATE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Paul R. Feeney

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 establish a master of library science assistance program.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Paul R. Feeney

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Bristol and Norfolk

SENATE No.

[Pin Slip]

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 824 OF 2023-2024.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act to establish a master of library science assistance program.

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 19 of Chapter 15A of the Massachusetts General Laws, as appearing in the 2022
2 Official Edition, is amended by adding the following paragraph:-

3 The board of higher education, subject to appropriation, shall establish a public librarian
4 incentive program, for the purpose of providing grants to public librarians presently working in a
5 public library in the Commonwealth, who are planning to attend, or attending, an institution of
6 higher education within the Commonwealth, or partner institutions under New England Board of
7 Higher Education's Regional Student Program, to earn a Master of Library Science degree. Said
8 board of higher education shall establish rules and regulations for the program, including the
9 levels of academic, leadership, extracurricular, and other achievement needed to qualify for the
10 grants. Based upon such rules and regulations, the board of higher education shall award a grant

- 11 equal to full tuition to public librarians who apply from each public library and who qualify for
- 12 the Master of Library Science assistance program.