

SENATE No. 741

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Joanne M. Comerford

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 committing to higher education the resources to Insure a strong and healthy public higher education system.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Joanne M. Comerford</i>	<i>Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester</i>	
<i>Tami L. Gouveia</i>	<i>14th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/22/2019</i>
<i>Natalie M. Blais</i>	<i>1st Franklin</i>	<i>1/22/2019</i>
<i>Jack Patrick Lewis</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/22/2019</i>
<i>John Barrett, III</i>	<i>1st Berkshire</i>	<i>1/28/2019</i>
<i>Michael J. Barrett</i>	<i>Third Middlesex</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Jennifer E. Benson</i>	<i>37th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/29/2019</i>
<i>Joseph A. Boncore</i>	<i>First Suffolk and Middlesex</i>	<i>1/30/2019</i>
<i>Michael D. Brady</i>	<i>Second Plymouth and Bristol</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Peter Capano</i>	<i>11th Essex</i>	<i>1/31/2019</i>
<i>Harriette L. Chandler</i>	<i>First Worcester</i>	<i>2/12/2019</i>
<i>Mike Connolly</i>	<i>26th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/28/2019</i>
<i>Brendan P. Crighton</i>	<i>Third Essex</i>	<i>1/30/2019</i>
<i>Julian Cyr</i>	<i>Cape and Islands</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Marcos A. Devers</i>	<i>16th Essex</i>	<i>2/27/2019</i>
<i>Sal N. DiDomenico</i>	<i>Middlesex and Suffolk</i>	<i>1/30/2019</i>
<i>Diana DiZoglio</i>	<i>First Essex</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>

<i>Mindy Domb</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>	<i>1/23/2019</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	<i>1/31/2019</i>
<i>Nika C. Elugardo</i>	<i>15th Suffolk</i>	<i>1/29/2019</i>
<i>Paul R. Feeney</i>	<i>Bristol and Norfolk</i>	<i>1/30/2019</i>
<i>Sean Garballey</i>	<i>23rd Middlesex</i>	<i>1/23/2019</i>
<i>Carmine Lawrence Gentile</i>	<i>13th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/25/2019</i>
<i>Anne M. Gobi</i>	<i>Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire and Middlesex</i>	<i>1/30/2019</i>
<i>James K. Hawkins</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>	<i>2/5/2019</i>
<i>Adam G. Hinds</i>	<i>Berkshire, Hampshire, Franklin and Hampden</i>	<i>1/30/2019</i>
<i>Russell E. Holmes</i>	<i>6th Suffolk</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Daniel J. Hunt</i>	<i>13th Suffolk</i>	<i>1/30/2019</i>
<i>Patricia D. Jehlen</i>	<i>Second Middlesex</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Mary S. Keefe</i>	<i>15th Worcester</i>	<i>1/28/2019</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/30/2019</i>
<i>Kathleen R. LaNatra</i>	<i>12th Plymouth</i>	<i>1/31/2019</i>
<i>David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf</i>	<i>17th Worcester</i>	<i>1/28/2019</i>
<i>Eric P. Lesser</i>	<i>First Hampden and Hampshire</i>	<i>1/31/2019</i>
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>	<i>1/23/2019</i>
<i>Michael O. Moore</i>	<i>Second Worcester</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Mathew J. Muratore</i>	<i>1st Plymouth</i>	<i>1/30/2019</i>
<i>James M. Murphy</i>	<i>4th Norfolk</i>	<i>1/31/2019</i>
<i>Tram T. Nguyen</i>	<i>18th Essex</i>	<i>1/26/2019</i>
<i>Marc R. Pacheco</i>	<i>First Plymouth and Bristol</i>	<i>1/28/2019</i>
<i>Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr.</i>	<i>12th Hampden</i>	<i>1/28/2019</i>
<i>Rebecca L. Rausch</i>	<i>Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>John H. Rogers</i>	<i>12th Norfolk</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Lindsay N. Sabadosa</i>	<i>1st Hampshire</i>	<i>2/22/2019</i>
<i>Thomas M. Stanley</i>	<i>9th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/31/2019</i>
<i>Walter F. Timilty</i>	<i>Norfolk, Bristol and Plymouth</i>	<i>1/29/2019</i>
<i>José F. Tosado</i>	<i>9th Hampden</i>	<i>1/30/2019</i>
<i>John C. Velis</i>	<i>4th Hampden</i>	<i>1/31/2019</i>
<i>James T. Welch</i>	<i>Hampden</i>	<i>2/4/2019</i>
<i>Susannah M. Whipps</i>	<i>2nd Franklin</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Bud L. Williams</i>	<i>11th Hampden</i>	<i>1/30/2019</i>

SENATE No. 741

By Ms. Comerford, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 741) of Joanne M. Comerford, Tami L. Gouveia, Natalie M. Blais, Jack Patrick Lewis and other members of the General Court for legislation to commit to higher education the resources to Insure a strong and healthy public higher education system. Higher Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court
(2019-2020)**

An Act committing to higher education the resources to Insure a strong and healthy public higher education system.

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 15A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2016 Official
2 Edition, is hereby amended by adding the follow section:-

3 Section 15A. It is the intention of the general court to assure fair and adequate funding
4 for the commonwealth’s public institutions of higher education by assuring that the appropriation
5 to fund such institutions equals the level of funding in effect in fiscal year 2001, adjusted for
6 inflation, and maintained, at a minimum, at that level thereafter. Effective in fiscal year 2020, the
7 annual budget request for the public institutions of higher education shall be determined by the
8 council and the secretary in accordance with this section for the University of Massachusetts, the
9 state university system, the community college system, and needs-based financial assistance
10 administered by the council under section 9B. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the
11 contrary, the council shall establish a 5-year schedule, beginning in fiscal year 2020, to restore

12 the level of funding of public institutions of higher education and needs based financial
13 assistance developed under section 15B to no less than the total per student appropriation for
14 fiscal year 2001, adjusted for inflation to the current fiscal year using the consumer price index
15 for all urban consumers, U.S. city average, as determined by the United States Bureau of Labor
16 Statistics. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the budget request to the
17 secretary of administration and finance for the system of institutions of public higher education
18 and needs-based financial assistance developed under section 15B shall be not less than the
19 amount determined by said schedule, and, in fiscal year 2024 and following, shall not be less
20 than the total per-student appropriation for fiscal year 2001 as so adjusted for inflation. The
21 council shall submit its annual budget request to the secretary of administration and finance, the
22 house and senate committees on ways and means and the joint committee on higher education.

23 SECTION 2. Notwithstanding section 7H of chapter 29 or any other general or special
24 law to the contrary, the governor shall submit to the general court annually a request for an
25 appropriation that complies with the funding requirements of section 15A of chapter 15A. Said
26 appropriation request shall not propose any direct or indirect reductions in any other state
27 appropriation including, but not limited to, collective bargaining agreements pursuant to chapter
28 150E of the General Laws, and scholarships and need-based financial assistance authorized by
29 chapter 15A of the General Laws.

30 SECTION 3. In fiscal years 2020 through 2024, no tuition or fees shall increase for
31 students enrolled at public institution of higher education in any fiscal year where the
32 appropriation for public institutions of higher education is at least the amount requested by the
33 council as provided in section 15A of chapter 15A of the General Laws.