

By Mr. Flanagan of Malden, petition of the Massachusetts Police Association that provision be made for financial assistance for police officers enrolled in courses of higher education. Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Sixty-Nine.

AN ACT PROVIDING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR POLICE OFFICER
HIGHER EDUCATION.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in
General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as
follows:*

1 The General Laws are hereby amended by inserting after
2 chapter 147 the following new chapter under the caption
3 POLICE OFFICER HIGHER EDUCATION.

4 CHAPTER 147A.

5 POLICE OFFICER HIGHER EDUCATION.

6 *Section 1.* In this section and in sections two through nine,
7 inclusive, the following words shall have the following mean-
8 ings unless a different meaning is clearly required by the
9 context;—

10 (a) "The board", the state board of higher education.

11 (b) "Police officer", any person who is a full-time police
12 officer in the service of any city or town, the metropolitan
13 district commission, the department of public safety, or the
14 capitol police.

15 (c) "Police cadet", any person affiliated with any police
16 department pursuant to chapter one hundred and forty-seven
17 of the General Laws.

18 (d) "Institution of higher education", any institution of

19 higher education in the commonwealth approved by the
20 board pursuant to this chapter.

21 *Section 2.* There is hereby established a police higher
22 education scholarship program. The board shall administer
23 such program and shall establish regulations governing the
24 eligibility and awarding of scholarships and the courses that
25 may be taken. The board shall expend such sums as may be
26 appropriated to carry out the provisions of this chapter and
27 such sums as may be received in gifts, grants, and trusts from
28 the federal government and from any foundation, corpora-
29 tion, or other person for the tuition and other reasonable
30 costs of education of police officers and police cadets as
31 hereinafter set forth.

32 *Section 3.* Any police officer or police cadet may apply to
33 the board for scholarship assistance to defray the cost of
34 tuition and other reasonable costs of education approved by
35 the board. In the event a police officer or police cadet fails to
36 complete his courses in any year, any unused balance of the
37 scholarship shall be returned to the General Fund.

38 *Section 4.* As a condition for the granting of such scholar-
39 ship, a police officer or police cadet shall enter into a written
40 agreement with the board that the full amount of the
41 scholarship shall be repaid to the commonwealth if the police
42 officer or police cadet does not serve in a police department
43 within the commonwealth for a period of five consecutive
44 years after completing the courses for which payments are
45 provided under this chapter unless excused therefrom by the
46 board in writing. The terms and conditions of repayment
47 shall be in such manner as the board may determine.