

HOUSE No. 439

By Mr. Rudsten of Boston, petition of Daniel Rudsten for legislation relative to the expansion and maintenance of the University of Massachusetts and the incorporation of the state teachers colleges therein. Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE EXPANSION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS.

1 *Whereas*, There is a great demand for higher educa-
2 tion to an unprecedented degree, and thousands of
3 veterans who desire to further their education under
4 the benefits of the G. I. Bill of Rights have been
5 unable to gain admission into colleges and universities;
6 and thousands of high school graduates have also
7 been unable to further their education because of
8 lack of space in educational institutions; and high
9 tuition fees have been a serious barrier to those high
10 school students who desire higher education; and
11 the country recognizes that its future and growth
12 depend on the ability of these young men and women,
13 it is hereby declared that the commonwealth of
14 Massachusetts recognizes its obligation to its young
15 citizens in fostering and aiding their education; and
16 that said commonwealth will expand its facilities

17 and do all in its power for the training and education
18 of its youth.

*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 state teachers colleges are hereby
2 incorporated into the University of Massachusetts.
3 They will be subject to the same laws and regulations
4 that apply to said university. The curricula of the
5 state teachers colleges which shall henceforth be
6 known as branches of the University of Massachu-
7 setts shall be altered so that for the first two years
8 of the four-year course they offer the training shall
9 be equivalent to the instruction offered by accredited
10 institutions for students working towards degrees
11 in the arts and sciences. Such changes in the curricula
12 will enable many students who have been unable to
13 gain admission into college because of lack of space
14 to receive two years of college training. Those
15 students who after two years of study in these branches
16 of the university desire to continue their education
17 and specialize as teachers may continue for third and
18 fourth year training at these branches. Other students
19 who wish to transfer to different colleges and uni-
20 versities will be enabled to do so without loss of credit.

1 SECTION 2. A major branch of the University of
2 Massachusetts shall be established at or near Boston
3 offering courses in the arts and sciences. There shall
4 be established at this branch colleges of education,
5 medicine, law, economics and business administration
6 and liberal arts.

7 Administration offices for the University of Massa-
8 chusetts shall be established in this part of the uni-

9 versity because of its being more accessible, and more
10 centrally located for the best possible administration
11 of the University of Massachusetts.

1 SECTION 3. The government of the university
2 shall be vested in a board of regents to consist of a
3 president, to be elected in the manner hereinafter
4 provided, and twelve members, who shall be appointed
5 by the governor, with the advice and consent of
6 the council, and who shall enter upon the duties
7 of their office as soon as elected; provided, that such
8 regents shall not be entitled to receive compensation
9 for their services.

1 SECTION 4. The members of the board at their
2 first meeting, shall be divided in such manner as they
3 shall determine into classes numbered one, two and
4 three: class numbered one shall hold office for two
5 years; class numbered two for four years; and class
6 numbered three for six years. Thereafter those
7 elected biennially to supply the vacancies made by the
8 provisions of this section and in the manner provided
9 for in section two shall hold their office for six years
10 respectively.

1 SECTION 5. The regents of the university and their
2 successors in office shall constitute a body corporate
3 with the name and style of the "Regents of the Uni-
4 versity of Massachusetts" with the right as such of
5 suing and being sued, of contracting and being con-
6 tracted with, of making and using a common seal
7 and altering the same at pleasure.

1 SECTION 6. The regents shall appoint a secretary,
2 a treasurer, and a librarian, who shall hold their

3 respective offices during the pleasure of the board;
4 it shall be the duty of the secretary to record all the
5 proceedings of the board, and carefully to preserve
6 all its books and papers; the treasurer shall keep a
7 true and faithful account of all moneys received and
8 paid out by him, and shall give such bonds for the
9 faithful performance of the duties of his office as the
10 regents may require.

1 SECTION 7. The regents shall have power and it
2 shall be their duty to enact laws for the government
3 of the university, to elect a president and appoint the
4 requisite number of professors and instructors and
5 such other officers as they may deem necessary, and
6 to determine the amount of their respective salaries;
7 provided that the salaries thus determined shall be
8 submitted to the legislature for their approval or
9 disapproval.

1 SECTION 8. The university shall consist of a
2 college of arts and science, a college of engineering, a
3 college of education, a college of medicine, a college
4 of law, a college of economics and business administra-
5 tion, a college of agriculture, and various other colleges
6 which the board of regents may determine necessary
7 for the proper education of the students of the com-
8 monwealth and others who attend the state uni-
9 versity. The immediate government of the several
10 departments shall be entrusted to their respective
11 faculties; and the regents shall have the power to
12 confer such degrees and to grant such diplomas as
13 are usually conferred and granted by other universi-
14 ties.

1 SECTION 9. The regents shall have the power to

2 remove any officer connected with the institution
3 when, in their judgment, the interests of the institu-
4 tion require it, but all such officers shall have the
5 right to a fair hearing by the regents and may appeal
6 any decision to the legislature.

1 SECTION 10. The fee of admission to the university
2 shall never exceed ten dollars for students who are
3 residents of the commonwealth; special provisions
4 and fees may be adjusted for those seeking admission
5 from other states or countries; the regents shall have
6 the power to arrange for admission of veterans under
7 the G. I. Bill of Rights with equal payments for
8 tuition as is required in other universities; and in
9 the future the regents are authorized to accept any
10 aid from the federal government in educational sub-
11 sidies or scholarships.

1 SECTION 11. The regents are authorized to pur-
2 chase or accept as a gift any suitable site for the
3 erection of the university buildings; and to proceed
4 to the erection of the same as soon as they may deem
5 it expedient; provided, that before they make the
6 purchase or accept any gift of land they shall submit
7 a plan of the same to the legislature which shall
8 approve the same.

1 SECTION 12. The regents are authorized to expend
2 such portion of the income of the university fund as
3 they may deem expedient for the erection of suitable
4 buildings, and the purchase of equipment for the
5 various university departments, including books for
6 the library.

1 SECTION 13. The regents are authorized to have
2 charge of any income derived from the sale of public

3 lands donated to this state by act of Congress ap-
4 proved July second, eighteen hundred and sixty-two,
5 known as the Land Grant Act, and the several acts
6 amendatory thereof.

1 SECTION 14. The regents shall make a report
2 annually to the legislature at its regular session ex-
3 hibiting the state and progress of the university in its
4 several departments, the courses of study, the number
5 of professors and students, the amount of expendi-
6 tures, and such other information as they may deem
7 proper.

1 SECTION 15. Meetings of the board shall be called
2 in such manner as the regents shall prescribe, and
3 any seven of them at a meeting regularly called shall
4 be a quorum for the transaction of business; and a
5 less number may adjourn from time to time; pro-
6 vided, that their first meeting may be called by any
7 three members of the board.

1 SECTION 16. The regents may receive in connec-
2 tion with the university any college in this state
3 upon application of its board of trustees; and such
4 college so received shall become a branch of the
5 university, and be subjected to the visitation or
6 advices of the regents.

1 SECTION 17. Admission to the university shall
2 not be denied to any persons because of race, color,
3 religious creed, national origin or ancestry.

