

SENATE No. 701

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

SENATE, March 12, 1964.

The committee on Education, to whom was referred so much of the Governor's Address (Senate, No. 1) as relates to improving the education of the handicapped and the mentally retarded; and as relates to pilot projects for the academically talented and disadvantaged children (page 23), report in part the accompanying bill (Senate, No. 701).

For the committee,

MARY L. FONSECA.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT TO PROVIDE SPECIAL PROGRAMS FOR DISADVANTAGED CHILDREN IN ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

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. To encourage special programs to identify chil-
2 dren in the elementary and secondary schools who are not
3 adequately developed by the general educational programs
4 afforded by the public schools of the commonwealth because
5 of home and community environmental conditions, the de-
6 partment of education, with the advice of the advisory com-
7 mission for disadvantaged children, is hereby authorized to
8 prescribe special programs for disadvantaged children selected
9 under this act.

10 Subject to appropriations, the department of education is
11 authorized to reimburse, on a matching basis, cities, towns,
12 and regional school districts for department-approved special
13 programs for disadvantaged children selected in a manner
14 prescribed by the department.

1 SECTION 2. The school committee of any city, town or re-
2 gional school district seeking to obtain state aid for the pur-
3 poses specified in section one of this act shall submit plans
4 therefor in accordance with regulations to be established by
5 the department of education with the assistance of the ad-
6 visory commission for disadvantaged children, including such
7 provisions as personnel to be employed, supervisory pro-
8 cedures, evaluation process and total estimated costs.

1 SECTION 3. Said plans may include, but shall not be limited
2 to the following types of services: —

- 3 (a) Intensified guidance and counseling of such minors in
4 close co-operation with the home.
- 5 (b) Specialized pre-school instruction.
- 6 (c) Remedial assistance in reading, arithmetic and other
7 subjects.
- 8 (d) Experimental reading materials based on the environ-
9 mental experiences of the underprivileged.
- 10 (e) Broadening of cultural opportunities.
- 11 (f) Closer working relationships with community and non-
12 school agencies which may render assistance.
- 13 (g) Scholarships for human relations workshops which pro-
14 vide opportunities for children and youth of different
15 backgrounds to share common work and study exper-
16 iences.
- 17 (h) Provision for special facilities for studying beyond reg-
18 ular school hours in such locations as school buildings,
19 libraries, housing projects and neighborhood centers.
- 20 (i) Employment of research personnel to evaluate methods
21 and materials particularly designed to help culturally
22 underprivileged children and youth.
- 23 (j) Offering of special institutes, workshops, and courses
24 to improve teacher awareness of environmental factors
25 affecting the underprivileged.

1 SECTION 4. The commonwealth, and each city, town or
2 regional school district participating in special programs de-
3 scribed in section one of this act is hereby authorized to ac-
4 cept and disburse federal funds, grants or gifts from charitable
5 foundations, private individuals, and corporations available,
6 for carrying out the purposes of this act.

1 SECTION 5. The department acting singly, or in concert
2 with participating cities, towns or regional school districts,
3 may contract with public or private colleges, universities and
4 other agencies for the purpose of engaging in research of ex-
5 perimentation consistent with the purposes of this act and may
6 expend monies appropriated by the General Court or otherwise
7 obtained under the terms of this act to these ends.

1 SECTION 6. To assist in carrying out the purposes of this
2 act there shall be in the department an advisory commission
3 for disadvantaged children consisting of the commissioner who
4 shall be chairman, the commissioner of public welfare or his
5 designee, the director of youth service or his designee, the
6 chairman of the Massachusetts committee on children and
7 youth or his designee, and four to be appointed by the gov-
8 ernor.

1 SECTION 7. During the third year after the effective date
2 of this act the advisory commission for disadvantaged children
3 shall make a comprehensive study of the experiences of the
4 various programs financed under this act and shall report to
5 the General Court the results of its study, and its recommenda-
6 tions, if any, together with drafts of legislation necessary to
7 carry its recommendations into effect, by filing the same with
8 the clerk of the Senate.

9 For the purpose of such study said commission shall be pro-
10 vided with quarters by the department of education, may
11 travel within and without the commonwealth, may hold hear-
12 ings, may expend for expert, clerical and other services and
13 assistance such sums as may be allocated to them for this
14 purpose by the department of education.

1 SECTION 8. This act shall terminate at the conclusion of
2 three complete school years following the effective date of
3 said act.