

HOUSE No. 246

By Messrs. DesRoches of New Bedford and Lemos of New Bedford, petition of Theophile J. DesRoches and Frank F. Lemos relative to state reimbursement of cities and towns for certain expenses incurred for the transportation of school pupils. Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Fifty-Seven.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO REIMBURSEMENT TO CITIES AND TOWNS FOR CERTAIN EXPENSES INCURRED FOR THE TRANSPORTATION OF PUPILS.

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 7A of chapter 71 of the General Laws is hereby
2 amended by striking out the first paragraph, as most re-
3 cently amended by chapter 754 of the acts of 1949, and in-
4 serting in place thereof the following paragraph:—
5 The state treasurer shall annually, on or before November
6 twentieth, pay to the several towns from the proceeds of the
7 tax on incomes, which shall be available therefor subject to
8 appropriation, the sums required as reimbursement for ex-
9 penses approved by the commissioner of education, incurred
10 by any town for the transportation of pupils once daily to
11 and from any school within the town, or in another town in
12 excess of five dollars per annum per pupil in the net average
13 membership of such town; provided, (a) that no transpor-
14 tation reimbursement shall be made on account of any pupil
15 who resides less than one mile from the school which he at-
16 tends, measured by a commonly travelled route; (b) that the
17 amount of grant, per pupil, for transportation to private

18 schools in towns which furnish such transportation, shall not
 19 exceed the amount of grant per pupil for transportation to
 20 public schools and (c) that no contract shall be awarded ex-
 21 cept upon the basis of sealed bids, and the school committee
 22 shall, in the event that a contract is awarded to other than
 23 the lowest bidder, file with the department a written state-
 24 ment giving its reasons therefor, which statement shall be
 25 open to the public inspection.