

SENATE No. 397

Bill accompanying the Report of the Special Recess Commission on Education (Senate, No. 330). Printed by order of the Senate.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Nineteen.

AN ACT

Relative to the Granting of Degrees by Colleges and other Institutions of Learning.

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. Whoever intends to present to the general
2 court a petition for the incorporation of a college, university
3 or other educational institution with power to grant degrees,
4 or for such an amendment to the charter of any existing edu-
5 cational institution as will give it power to grant degrees, shall
6 on or before the first day of November transmit such petition
7 to the office of the board of education.

1 SECTION 2. The petitioners shall give notice of such
2 petition by publishing a copy thereof once in each of three
3 successive weeks in such newspapers as the commissioner of
4 education may direct, the last publication to be made at least
5 fourteen days before the session of the general court at which

6 the petition is to be presented, and said petitioners shall, on
7 or before the first day of January, transmit to the commis-
8 sioner of education satisfactory evidence that the petition has
9 been published in accordance with the provisions of this sec-
10 tion.

1 SECTION 3. The board of education shall transmit such
2 petition to the general court during the first week of the
3 following session, together with its recommendations relative
4 thereto.

1 SECTION 4. No institution shall be incorporated with
2 power to grant degrees, nor shall there be an amendment to
3 the charter of any existing institution conferring upon it the
4 power to grant degrees, unless it shall have assets in buildings,
5 grounds, equipment, endowment and other resources amount-
6 ing to at least two hundred thousand dollars, and no educa-
7 tional institution of higher than secondary grade shall be
8 incorporated unless its provisions for educational equipment
9 and maintenance have been approved by the board of edu-
10 cation.

1 SECTION 5. No individual, school, association, corporation
2 or institution of learning not holding degree-conferring powers
3 by special charter granted by the general court shall confer
4 any degrees or transact business as, or in any way assume
5 the name of, a university or college, under a penalty of a fine
6 of one thousand dollars for each offence.

1 SECTION 6. This act shall not deprive any educational
2 institution whose corporate name now includes the words
3 "university" or "college" from continuing the use thereof.

1 SECTION 7. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent with
2 this act are hereby repealed.