

By Mr. Frank of Boston, petition of Barney Frank that provision be made for equal opportunities for higher education for residents of the Commonwealth. Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy-Three.

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR EQUAL HIGHER EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY FOR MASSACHUSETTS RESIDENTS.

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. It is hereby declared that for the benefit and
2 welfare of the people of the commonwealth and in order that
3 all residents shall have equal opportunities for higher education
4 regardless of their private circumstances or place of residency,
5 it shall be the policy of the commonwealth to provide financial
6 aid to the full extent of the need of every qualified resident
7 admitted to a public institution of higher education in Massa-
8 chusetts as a candidate for an associate or baccalaureate degree
9 and maintaining satisfactory academic standing therein. Recog-
10 nizing that the benefits of higher education accrue to the
11 individual in his private life no less than to all the people, it is
12 further declared to be the policy of the commonwealth that
13 the costs of higher educational instruction shall be borne in
14 approximately equal parts by the commonwealth and the
15 resident student, except as the needs of the student may
16 require a larger public contribution.

1 SECTION 2. Section 1D of chapter 15 of the General Laws,
2 as most recently amended by chapter 718 of the acts of 1969,
3 is hereby further amended by inserting after the twenty-first
4 paragraph the following new paragraphs: —

5 The board shall provide by regulation for the development
6 and administration at the several public institutions of higher
7 education of programs for the financial assistance of all stu-
8 dents in satisfactory academic standing who are residents of the

9 commonwealth and candidates for associate or baccalaureate
10 degrees and who are in need of financial assistance, to the
11 extent of the need of each such student. Such programs shall
12 provide for scholarships, suitable employments in or about the
13 several institutions, and loans, or any combination of them
14 suited to the circumstances and abilities of each aided student.
15 Such programs shall assure that financial need shall not be
16 considered in the admission of students to the institutions. The
17 board shall from time to time prescribe guidelines or standards
18 for determining the ability of each student or his parents to
19 contribute to the expenses of his education. Such guidelines or
20 standards may take into consideration disadvantage resulting
21 from educational, cultural, language, home, community, en-
22 vironmental, and other conditions which may tend to impede
23 access to or persistence in college programs. Financial aid
24 required by this section and not otherwise funded by appropri-
25 ations under this chapter and chapters sixty-nine, seventy-five,
26 seventy-five A, and seventy-five B, or from any other public or
27 private source, may be granted as remissions, in part or in
28 whole, of charges for tuition and, in the case of resident
29 students, for room and board, in accordance with regulations
30 of the board, provided, however, that the number and amount
31 of charges so remitted at each institution shall be reported to
32 the board and to the comptroller at the close of each college
33 term, and provided, further, that the value or work performed
34 by a student shall be determined by each institution in
35 accordance with regulations of the board.

36 The board shall annually determine for each public institu-
37 tion or group of institutions of higher education the average
38 cost of instruction for each undergraduate student. Costs so
39 determined shall be certified to the boards having control of
40 the several institutions and shall be used by them in fixing the
41 tuition to be charged for residents of the commonwealth under
42 the provisions of section twenty-eight of this chapter, sections
43 one and one A of chapter seventy-three, section one of chapter
44 seventy-five, section fourteen of chapter seventy-five B. No
45 tuition shall be fixed in an amount less than thirty or more
46 than sixty per cent of the actual cost of instruction as most
47 recently determined for each institution or group of institu-
48 tions under this section.

49 On or before the last day of each month, the state treasurer
50 shall distribute to each institution of higher education an
51 amount equal to the amount of tuition charges collected by
52 such institution and credited to the general fund as determined
53 and certified to him by the comptroller. Amounts so distrib-
54 uted to each institution may be expended for any of the
55 purposes for which appropriations are regularly made for its
56 use.

1 SECTION 3. Section 3 of chapter 29 of the General Laws,
2 as most recently amended by chapter 704 of the acts of 1969,
3 is hereby further amended by adding at the end thereof the
4 following sentence: – Estimates of the amounts required for
5 the maintenance of institutions of higher education under this
6 section shall be reduced, by the estimated amount of tuition
7 payments to be distributed to each institution in the ensuing
8 year in accordance with section one D of chapter fifteen.

1 SECTION 4. This act shall take effect on its passage and
2 shall apply to students admitted to college after January 1,
3 1974.

