
By Mr. D'Amico, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 265) of Gerard D'Amico, Frank J. Matrango and Ann C. Gannett for legislation to promote the use of community resources by public schools. Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty.

AN ACT TO PROMOTE THE USE OF COMMUNITY RESOURCES BY
PUBLIC 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. The general court finds that many unused edu-
2 cational opportunities exist in museums and public and private
3 community agencies. It is the intent of this act to encourage
4 and assist the public schools to make more effective use of
5 such educational services through funding from federal, state
6 and private sources.

1 SECTION 2. Chapter 69 of the General Laws is hereby
2 amended by adding after section 35 the following section: —

3 *Section 36.* The department shall promote the use of the
4 educational services of museums and other cultural organiza-
5 tions located in the Commonwealth by the public schools as
6 part of their regular programs. To assist school committees
7 and educational collaboratives organized under section 4E of
8 Chapter 40 in the purchase of such educational services, the
9 commissioner may seek, accept and administer specific grants
10 from federal agencies and from private foundations and other
11 private sources. Such grants shall be held by the State Treas-
12 urer in a special account and may be expended by the said
13 commissioner with the approval of the Board of Education
14 without further appropriation.

15 The department may, subject to appropriation and pursu-
16 ant to regulations of the board of education, provide additional
17 assistance by means of monetary grants to city, town and re-
18 gional school district committees and to educational collabo-
19 rative boards. Monetary grants under this section may be

20 spent jointly with such federal grants, if any, or with any
21 other funds available to the school committees or collaborative
22 boards for like purposes, provided, however, that no monetary
23 grant shall, when added to any federal or private funds, ex-
24 ceed in total seventy-five per cent of the costs of purchasing
25 such services and of any incidental costs of administration and
26 transportation. Any amounts so received by a school com-
27 mittee of a city or town for the aforesaid purposes from any
28 federal, state or private sources shall be deposited with the
29 treasurer of such city or town and held as a separate account,
30 and expended by said school committee without further ap-
31 propriation, notwithstanding the provisions of section fifty-
32 three of chapter forty-four. Any such amounts received by a
33 regional district school committee or by an educational col-
34 laborative board shall be deposited with the treasurer thereof
35 and held in a separate account and expended by the regional
36 district school committee or by the collaborative board, as the
37 case may be. Such amounts shall be in addition to grants
38 made pursuant to the final paragraph of said section four E.
39 To assist schools and private organizations in the planning
40 and development of educational services for the purposes of
41 this section, the department may contract with any appropri-
42 ate public or private agency.

43 For the purposes of this section, "cultural organization"
44 shall mean any non-profit organizations, public or private,
45 such as a museum, historical society, zoo, aquarium, or per-
46 forming or visual arts organizations, as further defined by the
47 department which is primarily concerned with the advance-
48 ment of the arts and humanities or the broad aspects of sci-
49 ence, and which: —

50 a. owns or utilizes, maintains and regularly exhibits tangi-
51 ble objects to the public or provides a regular schedule of
52 public performances or arts services;

53 b. is professionally staffed to conduct its educational pro-
54 grams;

55 c. has demonstrated to the satisfaction of the department
56 the ability to provide effective educational programs; and

57 d. is exempt from income taxation pursuant to section
58 501(c) (3) of the Federal Internal Revenue Code.