

By Mr. LoPresti, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 824) of Michael LoPresti, Jr., for legislation to create a court education trust fund for the purpose of funding educational programs relating to judicial business, the improvement of the judicial system and the administration of justice. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Ninety.

AN ACT CREATING A COURT EDUCATION TRUST FUND.

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. Chapter 211 of the General Laws is hereby
2 amended by adding the following section: —

3 Section 3G. The Supreme Judicial Court shall administer a
4 Court Education Trust Fund, which is hereby created, for the
5 purpose of funding educational programs relating to judicial
6 business, the improvement of the judicial system and the
7 administration of justice. The money deposited in said trust fund
8 shall be used for travel, per diem tuition, educational materials
9 and other related costs incurred for educational programs, in and
10 out of state, which will be of benefit to the judges and other
11 personnel of the courts. The Supreme Judicial Court shall adopt
12 a comprehensive plan for the operation of the trust fund and the
13 expenditure of the moneys therein.

14 The trust fund shall consist of the service charges assessed
15 pursuant to section four C of chapter 262 of the General Laws.

1 SECTION 2. Chapter 262 of the General Laws is hereby
2 amended by adding the following section: —

3 Section 4C. A party entering a complaint, petition, appeal or
4 other action in court, in addition to the fee required pursuant to
5 sections two, four and four A of this chapter, shall be assessed

6 a service charge of two dollars. The moneys collected for said
7 service charge shall be forwarded by the clerk of court to the
8 Supreme Judicial Court on a monthly basis for deposit in the
9 Court Education Trust Fund.

10 Notwithstanding the foregoing, no service charge shall be paid
11 by the commonwealth; but if the commonwealth prevails in the
12 action, the service charge shall be taxed against another party.