

By Mr. Quinn, a petition of Philip A. Quinn for legislation to provide that cities, towns, superintendency unions, or regional school systems be required to establish learning disability programs. Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT PROVIDING THAT CITIES, TOWNS, SUPERINTENDENCY UNIONS, OR REGIONAL SCHOOL SYSTEMS BE REQUIRED TO ESTABLISH LEARNING DISABILITY PROGRAMS.

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. Section 46K of Chapter 71 of the General Laws
2 as appearing in section 1 of chapter 647 of the acts of 1966 is
3 hereby amended by striking out in line 2, the word, "ascertain"
4 and inserting in place thereof the following words: "screen
5 and evaluate";

1 SECTION 2. Said Section 46K is hereby further amended by
2 striking out the second and third paragraphs and inserting in
3 place thereof the following two paragraphs: —

4 In any town or regional school district where there is a
5 child who has any such learning disability, the school com-
6 mittee shall provide special instruction periods in a place un-
7 der the control of the school committee for the purpose of
8 furnishing such child the type of instruction he requires.

9 In any town or regional school district where there are
10 seven or more children who have any such learning disability,
11 the school committee shall establish a special class for the pur-
12 pose of furnishing such children the type of remedial instruc-
13 tion they require, and shall employ a teacher with special
14 qualifications for such a position.

1 SECTION 3. Said chapter 71 is hereby further amended by

2 striking out section 46L, as so appearing, and inserting in
3 place thereof the following section: —

4 Section 46L. The department, under regulation prescribed
5 jointly by the departments of education, public health and
6 mental health, and upon the request of the parents or guard-
7 ians and with the approval of the governor, shall send such
8 children having the specific learning disabilities described in
9 section forty-six K as it considers proper subjects for special
10 training and instruction to any school within the common-
11 wealth affording remedial treatment for such children. The de-
12 partment shall continue the special education of such children
13 for such terms as may be recommended by the principal or
14 other chief administrative office of such school.