

HOUSE No. 2165

By Mr. White of Boston, petition of W. Paul White for legislation to exempt certain schools from the racial imbalance law. Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT PROVIDING THAT CERTAIN SCHOOLS MAY BE EXEMPTED FROM THE RACIAL IMBALANCE LAW.

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 37D of chapter 71 of the General Laws
2 is hereby amended by adding after the last paragraph the
3 following: —

4 A school which is racially imbalanced under the terms of this
5 section but which on the basis of the assessment required by
6 section twelve C of chapter seventy-six is certified by the
7 commissioner of education as providing a level of educational
8 achievement that is above the median for all schools of
9 comparable grade levels in the commonwealth may be exempted
10 from the provisions of this section, if a parent advisory board
11 elected by the parents of students attending said school annually
12 so petitions the board of education, and provided that the school
13 committee which has jurisdiction over said school adopts a
14 program, approved by the board of education, which will assure
15 that the students attending said school will have a significant
16 degree of contact with children of differing racial and cultural
17 backgrounds.

1 SECTION 2. Chapter 76 of the General Laws is hereby
2 amended by adding after section 12B the following section: —

3 *Section 12C.* The commissioner of education shall direct
4 that all school committees and regional school boards in the
5 commonwealth shall cause to be administered such tests and

6 examinations, as well as other forms of evaluation, as such shall
7 permit an assessment of the achievement of students in each
8 school under the jurisdiction of said school committees and
9 regional school boards. The results of such assessments shall be
10 sworn to and sent to the commissioner in the annual return. The
11 commissioner shall publish all results with appropriate
12 comparative analyses, and shall distribute these results to the
13 general public and in particular to the parents of students who
14 might choose to participate in a plan adopted by a school
15 committee under the provisions of section twelve A.