

SENATE . . . . . No. 311

By Mr. D'Amico, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 311) of the Massachusetts Association of Vocational Administrators, by Ronald Fitzgerald, and Gerard D'Amico for legislation relative to tuition admissions to vocational education programs. Education.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty-one.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO TUITION ADMISSIONS TO VOCATION EDUCATION 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. Chapter 74 of the General Laws is hereby amend-  
2 ed by striking out section 7, as most recently amended by  
3 chapter 599 of the acts of 1957, and inserting in place thereof  
4 the following section: —  
5 *Section 7. Admission to Vocational Programs.* Each citizen  
6 in Massachusetts shall be eligible for enrollment in a publicly  
7 supported program leading to his or her earning a vocational  
8 certification in a program approved under Chapter 74 of the  
9 General Laws upon judgment of readiness for such a program  
10 by vocational program directors, unless he or she has already  
11 received one or more such vocational certifications in Massa-  
12 chusetts or in an equivalent publicly supported program out-  
13 side of Massachusetts or unless an evaluation under Chapter  
14 71B of the General Laws does not recommend such vocational  
15 training as a primary need. The State Department of Educa-  
16 tion will rule on eligibility of persons moving to Massachu-  
17 setts from other states or nations. Each citizen will retain that  
18 eligibility until and unless he or she is awarded one vocational  
19 certification through a Chapter 74 program. If (a) the town,  
20 city, or region in which a citizen resides does not offer a Chap-  
21 ter 74 program which includes the opportunity for explora-  
22 tion study and major study in the area of the citizen's interest  
23 and (b) he or she has not yet received any vocational cer-

24 tification under Chapter 74 and (c) he or she gains admission  
25 to an approved Chapter 74 program from some other town,  
26 city, or region in Massachusetts and (d) he or she has not yet  
27 earned a high school diploma; the town or city of the citizen's  
28 residence must pay an annual tuition charge set by the admit-  
29 ting school district. The town or city must also provide either  
30 transportation or reasonable reimbursement for transportation  
31 costs annually to said citizen if he or she has not yet earned  
32 a high school diploma. The annual budget for each town and  
33 city must contain an appropriation for such tuition and trans-  
34 portation expenses.

1 SECTION 2. Said Chapter 74 is hereby amended by inserting  
2 after section 7 the following section: —

3 *Section 7C. Post-Certification and Post-Diploma Admission*  
4 *to Vocational Programs.* Citizens who have already received  
5 a vocational certificate or a high school diploma may be ad-  
6 mitted to a vocational certification program only when such  
7 admission is approved by a school district in which they are  
8 residents admitted under the local or regional agreement or  
9 policies or when non-resident tuition admission is approved by  
10 the Commissioner of Education without assignment of tuition  
11 billion to any town or city.

1 SECTION 3. Said Chapter 74 is hereby further amended by  
2 striking out section 8, as most recently amended by chapter  
3 730 of the Acts of 1970, and inserting in place thereof the fol-  
4 lowing section: —

5 *Section 8. Payment of Tuition of Non-Residents.* A town or  
6 city where a person resides who is admitted to the school of  
7 another town or region under section seven shall pay a tuition  
8 fee to the admitting school district. Said tuition shall be com-  
9 puted by the admitting school district and approved by the  
10 Commissioner of Education. A town or city must pay one-half  
11 of the tuition due by December and one-half by May of the  
12 year in which the tuition pupil attends school. The receiving  
13 school's school committee may, at its discretion, allow the con-  
14 venience of delaying payment until the first of the succeeding  
15 fiscal year with surcharge not to exceed ten percent of the  
16 normal tuition charge.

17 In the case of persons admitted to a vocational program on  
18 a non-resident tuition basis under the above section 7C, after  
19 receiving one vocational certification or a high school diploma,  
20 each such person must pay to the admitting district a tuition  
21 fee equal to that charged at a public regional community col-  
22 lege and announced by the Commissioner of Education at least  
23 three months prior to the start of each school year and the  
24 Commissioner of Education shall arrange an adjustment of  
25 Chapter 70 school aid for the year following attendance to en-  
26 sure that the admitting district will receive additional aid for  
27 each such student equal to the district's normal tuition under  
28 "a" or "b" above plus a ten percent surcharge less the tuition  
29 fee paid by the student; this aid shall be paid in full above and  
30 beyond any Chapter 70 aid otherwise due the admitting dis-  
31 trict on any basis.

