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By Mr. Locke (by request), a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 334) of Leo J. Coveney for legislation to authorize the issuance of educational vouchers. Education.

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT AUTHORIZING EDUCATIONAL VOUCHERS.

*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. All cities and towns shall issue educational vouch-  
2 ers to the parents of elementary and secondary school children.  
3 The value of the educational vouchers will be 80% of the  
4 actual cost of the tuition in non-public schools or 100% of the  
5 cost of tuition in public schools which the parents choose for  
6 their children. No voucher will exceed in value the average  
7 cost of a public school education in the respective municipality  
8 except vouchers for children subject to the provisions of Chap-  
9 ter 766 can have larger vouchers not to exceed the cost of the  
10 average voucher of a child subject to Chapter 766 in the pub-  
11 lic schools.

1 SECTION 2. The unions and associations of teachers in the  
2 non-public and public schools and the Massachusetts Depart-  
3 ment of Education are invited to help administer this legisla-  
4 tion in a manner to advance its purposes.

1 SECTION 3. The purposes of this legislation will be to ad-  
2 vance the opportunities of lower income people, to participate  
3 in the advantages and disadvantages of non-public schools, that  
4 are the same as higher income people without regard to race,  
5 religion, ethnic origin, intelligence, mental or physical handi-  
6 caps, sexual or moral orientation.

