SENATE No. 334

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.

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.

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