

By Mr. McGee of Lynn, petition of Virginia L. Tierney, Thomas W. McGee and another for legislation to establish the Silver-Haired Legislature as a permanent entity under the Board of Regents. Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE SILVER-HAIRED LEGISLATURE AS A PERMANENT ENTITY UNDER THE BOARD OF REGENTS.

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. The Board of Regents shall maintain a permanent
2 program, to be known as the Silver-Haired Legislature, for the
3 purpose of training elderly citizens of the Commonwealth as advo-
4 cates representing the Commonwealth's elderly population. There
5 shall be no more than two hundred members of the Silver-Haired
6 Legislature, elected by their peers, in legislative districts which
7 coincide with the one hundred and sixty and forty legislative
8 districts of the Massachusetts House and Senate respectively, pro-
9 vided that membership in said Silver-Haired Legislature shall be
10 restricted to those individuals who have attained the age of sixty or
11 older at the time of their election.

1 SECTION 2. The Board of Regents, subject to special appro-
2 priation, shall provide a Coordinator to administer said program,
3 and shall establish rules and regulations governing the operation of
4 said program and shall expend such funds as may be appropriated
5 for that purpose on elections, training sessions, legislative sessions
6 and such related activities as the Board of Regents deems appro-
7 priate, provided however, that no rule or regulation shall restrict
8 the number of terms that a member of the Silver-Haired Legisla-
9 ture may serve, consecutively or otherwise, and further provided
10 that the Coordinator shall periodically consult with the duly con-
11 stituted representatives of the Silver-Haired House and Senate
12 regarding the operation of said program.

1 SECTION 3. Within sixty days for the passage of this act, the
2 Board of Regents shall conduct a special election in those legisla-
3 tive districts where vacancies currently exist. The election of
4 members to the Silver-Haired Legislature next following shall be
5 held in April, nineteen hundred and eighty-seven, and every two
6 years thereafter.

1 SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon its passage.