

HOUSE No. 5561

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, May 26, 1987.

The committee on Education, to whom were referred the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1656) of Joan M. Menard, other members of the General Court and others that the Commonwealth be required to assist cities and towns for the cost of special education placements for certain children; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1941) of Theodore J. Aleixo, Jr., for legislation to assist cities and towns in meeting the costs of special education placements for certain children; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1946) of Patricia G. Fiero, Paul Kollios, John E. McDonough, Sherwood Guernsey, Carol C. Cleven and Carmen D. Buell relative to state assistance for the cost of certain special education placements; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2504) of Thomas G. Palumbo relative to the payment by the Commonwealth of the costs of certain special education placements; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3280) of Richard T. Moore and Mary Jeanette Murray relative to the cost of special education at residential schools; and the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3460) of Richard R. Tisei relative to assisting cities and towns in meeting the cost of special education placements for certain children, reports recommending that the accompanying bill (House, No. 5561) ought to pass.

For the committee,

NICHOLAS A. PALEOLOGOS.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT ASSISTING CITIES AND TOWNS IN MEETING THE COSTS OF SPECIAL EDUCATION PLACEMENTS FOR CERTAIN CHILDREN.

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 5A of chapter 71B of the General Laws, as appearing
2 in the 1984 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after
3 the first paragraph the following paragraph: —

4 When a school age child with special needs residing in the
5 commonwealth has no father or mother or guardian living in the
6 commonwealth who can be found after reasonable efforts to do
7 so, the department will assign a school committee to provide a
8 special education program for that child. If such child is
9 determined by the school committee or the bureau of special
10 education appeals to be in need of a special education program
11 at a day or residential school, pursuant to the procedures set forth
12 in the regulations promulgated by the department, the
13 commonwealth shall be obligated to pay the cost of the day or
14 residential program at the rate established by the rate setting
15 commission under sections thirty-one to forty-six, inclusive, of
16 chapter six A.