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By Mr. Donahue, a petition of Maurice A. Donahue for legislation to establish a teachers' corps for the Commonwealth. Education.

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Sixty-Five.

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AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TEACHERS' CORPS FOR THE COMMONWEALTH.

*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. There is hereby established a teachers' corps  
2 commission, hereinafter in this act called the commission, to  
3 consist of five members to be appointed by the governor, not  
4 more than three of whom shall be of the same political party.  
5 The governor shall fill any vacancy for the remainder of the  
6 unexpired term. The chairman of the commission shall be  
7 chosen annually by the members. The members of the com-  
8 mission shall serve without compensation, but shall be reim-  
9 bursed for expenses necessarily incurred in the performance  
10 of their duties. The commission shall meet monthly and at  
11 other times at the call of the chairman or as the commission  
12 may determine. The commission shall be provided with suit-  
13 able quarters in the city of Boston. The Commission shall  
14 make an annual report to the general court and shall forewith  
15 submit a copy of such report to the governor and the state  
16 secretary.

1 SECTION 2. There shall be established a teachers' corps to  
2 consist of twenty-five carefully selected teachers of ability and  
3 experience who shall volunteer to serve for terms of one year  
4 or two years, as they may determine, as teachers in the public  
5 schools of any city, town or regional school district of the  
6 commonwealth which requests such teaching assistance.  
7 The commission shall appoint a director of the teachers'  
8 corps, who shall be an experienced educator. He shall not be

9 subject to the provisions of chapter thirty-one of the General  
10 Laws nor of section nine A of chapter thirty of the General  
11 Laws. The commission shall establish his salary. He may ap-  
12 point such other employees as he deems necessary to carry  
13 out the provisions of this act, none of whom shall be subject  
14 to said chapter thirty-one or said section nine A of said chap-  
15 ter thirty of the General Laws.

16 The commission and the director shall induce able and  
17 experienced teachers to volunteer for service in the teachers'  
18 corps, and shall try to instill in local communities an awareness  
19 of the need for skilled teachers. The director shall constantly  
20 seek applicants for the teachers' corps. Each applicant must  
21 submit with his application proof that he is an American  
22 citizen, is in good health, is of sound moral character and has  
23 been certified as a teacher by the state board of education,  
24 and a statement of his previous teaching experience. The  
25 director shall submit on or before March first, a list of all ap-  
26 plicants for the corps to the state commissioner of education,  
27 who shall approve twenty-five such applicants. The applicants  
28 so approved shall be members of the teachers' corps.

29 Each member of the teachers' corps shall receive a salary  
30 equivalent to the salary received by him from the city, town  
31 or school district in which he was teaching at the time of his  
32 application, or, if not teaching at said time, commencing  
33 with his education and experience as a teacher. The salaries  
34 of all members shall be paid by the commonwealth. A member  
35 of the corps shall be assigned by the commission to work under  
36 the school committee of the city, town or district which re-  
37 quested him and which, in the opinion of the board, is most  
38 deserving of educational assistance.

39 A member assigned to a city, town or regional school dis-  
40 trict shall be paid by the commonwealth expenses of moving  
41 his family to such city, town or district, not to exceed three  
42 hundred dollars. If a member volunteers for the term of one  
43 year he shall receive at the end of said year in addition to his  
44 salary five hundred dollars; and if he volunteers for the term  
45 of two years' service, he shall receive said additional amount  
46 at the end of each year of service. The school committees of

47 the city, town or school district to which a member of the  
48 teachers' corps is assigned shall determine where such member  
49 is to teach and what subjects he shall teach.

50 The tenure rights, if any, of a teacher in any public school  
51 system of the commonwealth shall not be affected by his  
52 service in the teachers' corps. Any members of the teachers'  
53 corps who is a member of the teachers' retirement system  
54 or of any other contributory retirement system, and is on  
55 authorized leave of absence for the purpose of serving in said  
56 teachers' corps, shall have his period of service as a member  
57 of the teachers' corps count as creditable service for purposes  
58 of retirement, and the commonwealth shall pay into the an-  
59 nuity saving funds of such system an amount equal to the  
60 regular deductions from his regular compensation during such  
61 period.

1 SECTION 3. Subject to the approval of the commissioner of  
2 administration, the commission may apply for and accept on  
3 behalf of the commonwealth any funds or monies from any  
4 source, including grants, bequests, gifts, contributions, com-  
5 pensation or other payments made by the federal govern-  
6 ment and any agency or subdivision thereof, or by any in-  
7 dividual, foundation, corporation or public authority.

8 The commission may contract with any agency or sub-  
9 division of the federal government and the commonwealth to  
10 provide or to receive services in connection with the work of  
11 the commission.

1 SECTION 4. This act shall cease to be operative on August  
2 thirty-first, nineteen hundred and sixty-eight.

