

HOUSE No. 90

Accompanying the thirteenth recommendation of the Board of Education
(House, No. 77). Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO PRE-
SCRIBE SPECIAL PROGRAMS FOR CERTAIN DISADVANTAGED CHIL-
DREN, AND TO ASSIST CITIES AND TOWNS AND REGIONAL SCHOOL
DISTRICTS IN ESTABLISHING SAID PROGRAMS.

*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. To encourage special programs to identify chil-
2 dren in the elementary and secondary schools who are not
3 adequately developed by the general educational programs af-
4 farded by the public schools of the commonwealth because of
5 home and community environmental conditions, the depart-
6 ment of education, hereafter referred to as the department,
7 with the advice of the advisory commission for disadvantaged
8 children, created in section six, is hereby authorized to pre-
9 scribe special programs for disadvantaged children.

10 Subject to appropriation, the department is authorized to re-
11 imburse, on a matching basis, cities, towns, and regional school
12 districts for the cost of such special programs as it shall approve.

1 SECTION 2. The school committee of any city, town or re-
2 gional school district seeking to obtain state aid for the pur-
3 poses specified in section one shall submit plans therefore in ac-
4 cordance with regulations to be established by the department,
5 which plans shall include personnel to be employed, super-
6 visory procedures, evaluation process and total estimated costs.

1 SECTION 3. Said plans may include, but shall not be limited
2 to, the following types of services: — (a) intensified guidance
3 and counseling of such minors in close co-operation with the
4 home; (b) specialized pre-school instruction; (c) remedial as-
5 sistance in reading, arithmetic and other subjects; (d) experi-
6 mental reading materials based on the environmental experi-
7 ences of the underprivileged; (e) broadening of cultural oppor-
8 tunities; (f) closer working relationships with community and
9 non-school agencies which may render assistance; (g) scholar-
10 ships for human relations workshops which provide oppor-
11 tunities for children and youth of different backgrounds to sha-
12 re common work and study experiences; (h) provision for special
13 facilities for studying beyond regular school hours in such loca-
14 tions as school buildings, libraries, housing projects and neigh-
15 borhood centers; (i) employment of research personnel to evalu-
16 ate methods and materials particularly designed to help cul-
17 turally underprivileged children and youth; (j) offering of
18 special institutes, workshops, and courses to improve teacher
19 awareness of environmental factors affecting the underprivileged.

1 SECTION 4. The commonwealth, and each city, town or re-
2 gional school district participating in the special programs de-
3 scribed in section one is hereby authorized to accept and disburse
4 federal funds, grants or gifts from charitable foundations, pri-
5 vate individuals, and corporations available, for carrying out the
6 purposes of this act.

1 SECTION 5. The department, acting singly, or in concert with
2 participating cities, towns or regional school districts, may con-
3 tract with public or private colleges, universities and other agen-
4 cies for the purpose of engaging in research or experimentation
5 consistent with the purposes of this act, and may expend monies
6 appropriated by the general court or otherwise obtained under
7 the terms of this act to these ends.

1 SECTION 6. To assist in carrying out the purposes of this act
2 there shall be in the department an advisory commission for dis-
3 advantaged children, consisting of the commissioner of educa-
4 tion who shall be chairman, the commissioner of public welfare
5 or his designee, the director of the division of youth service or
6 his designee, the chairman of the Massachusetts committee on

7 children and youth or his designee, and four persons to be
8 appointed by the governor.

1 SECTION 7. The advisory commission for disadvantaged chil-
2 dren shall make a comprehensive study of the experiences of the
3 various programs financed under this act.

4 For the purpose of such study said commission shall be pro-
5 vided with quarters by the department, may travel within and
6 without the commonwealth, may hold hearings, may expend for
7 expert, clerical and other services and assistance such sums as
8 may be allocated to them for this purpose by the department.

1 SECTION 8. This act shall become inoperative on June thir-
2 tieth, nineteen hundred and seventy-one.

The first part of the report deals with the general situation in the country and the progress of the work during the year.

The second part of the report deals with the work done in the various departments during the year. It is divided into six sections, each dealing with a different department.

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