

HOUSE No. 4280

By Mr. LaFontaine of Gardner, petition of Raymond L. LaFontaine that cities and towns be reimbursed by the Commonwealth for expenses incurred by the transportation of school pupils. Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy-Two.

AN ACT PROVIDING FULL REIMBURSEMENT BY THE COMMONWEALTH TO CITIES AND TOWNS FOR EXPENSES INCURRED IN CONNECTION WITH THE TRANSPORTATION OF PUPILS TO AND FROM SCHOOL.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 The first paragraph of section 7A of chapter 71 of the
2 General Laws is hereby amended by striking out the first
3 sentence and inserting in place thereof the following sen-
4 tence:—The state treasurer shall annually, on or before
5 November twentieth, pay to the several towns, subject to
6 appropriation, the sums required for expenses approved by the
7 commissioner of education, incurred by any town for the
8 transportation of pupils once daily to and from any school
9 within the town, or in another town, provided that no contract
10 shall be awarded except upon the basis of prevailing wage rates,
11 as hereinafter provided, and of sealed bids, and the school
12 committee shall, in the event that a contract is awarded to
13 other than the lowest bidder, file with the department a
14 written statement giving its reasons therefor, which statement
15 shall be open to public inspection.

The Committee on the part of the House is in favor of the bill as amended and recommends that the bill be reported with an amendment to the title as follows:

The Department of Education

For the purpose of organizing the Department of Education.

That the bill be reported with an amendment to the title as follows: "An Act to provide for the organization of the Department of Education."

It is so ordered by the House, and Messrs. [Names] reported the bill as amended.

The bill provides for the reorganization of the Department of Education. It contains provisions for the consolidation of certain existing departments, the creation of new positions, and the transfer of functions from existing agencies to the proposed Department. The bill also provides for the appointment of a Secretary of Education and for the establishment of a Board of Education. The Committee is in favor of the bill as amended and recommends that it be reported with an amendment to the title as follows: "An Act to provide for the organization of the Department of Education."