

By Ms. Gardner of Holliston, petition of Barbara Gardner and David P. Magnani for legislation to further regulate municipal educational scholarship funds under the local tax laws of the Commonwealth. Taxation.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT RELATIVE TO MUNICIPAL EDUCATIONAL FUNDS.

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. Section 3C of chapter 60 of the General Laws, as
2 appearing in the 1994 Official Edition, is hereby amended by
3 inserting after the word "needs", in line 14, the following
4 words:— , including the purchase of educational technology to
5 enhance the educational needs of students,.

1 SECTION 2. Said section 3C of said chapter 60, as so appear-
2 ing, is hereby further amended by striking out the third paragraph
3 and inserting in place thereof the following paragraph:—

4 In any city or town establishing a scholarship fund, there shall
5 be a scholarship committee and educational fund committee to
6 consist of the superintendent of the city or town schools or
7 designee thereof, and no fewer than four residents of the city or
8 town appointed by the mayor, board of selectmen or town council,
9 whichever is appropriate, to a term of three years. Funds accumu-
10 lated in the educational fund may be used at the discretion of the
11 educational fund committee of the city or town, subject to any
12 ordinance or by-law for the needs of the school system in such
13 city or town for equipment to enhance the educational needs of
14 the students or for other needs as determined by the educational
15 fund committee. The scholarship committee shall select the recipi-
16 ents of and amounts of financial aid from the scholarship fund and
17 shall be guided by any criteria established by the scholarship com-

18 mittee subject to any ordinance or by-law and further subject to
19 the following criteria:

20 (a) The recipients of financial aid must be residents of the city
21 or town at the time the financial aid is first awarded and have been
22 accepted to pursue education beyond the secondary school level at
23 an institution deemed accredited by the committee.

24 (b) The committee shall take into consideration each recipient's
25 financial need, character, scholastic record and involvement in
26 community work as well as extracurricular school activities.