

By Mr. Cellucci of Hudson, petition of Argeo P. Cellucci relative to the transportation of persons attending certain facilities of the Department of Mental Health. Education.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

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AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE TRANSPORTATION OF PERSONS ATTENDING CERTAIN FACILITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH.

*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 27 of chapter 19 of the General Laws, as  
2 most recently amended by chapter 1194 of the acts of 1973, is  
3 hereby further amended by striking out the second paragraph and  
4 inserting in place thereof the following paragraph: —

5 When transportation to such nursery school is required, the  
6 department shall notify the school department of the city or town  
7 in which the child resides of his admission to the nursery school  
8 program. Following such notification, the school department shall  
9 pay the cost of transporting the child to and from such nursery  
10 school on such days as it is in session, and it shall be reimbursed the  
11 entire cost by the department of education.

1 SECTION 2. Said section 27 of said chapter 19 is hereby furth-  
2 er amended by striking out the second sentence of the fifth para-  
3 graph and inserting in place thereof the following sentence: —

4 Said school department shall be reimbursed for the entire costs  
5 of such transportation by the department of education.

1 SECTION 3. Said chapter 19 is hereby further amended by  
2 striking out section 28, as most recently amended by section 3 of  
3 chapter 88 of the acts of 1970, and inserting in place thereof the  
4 following section: —

5     *Section 28.* Whenever a mentally retarded person qualifies for  
6 attendance at an educational, habitation, or day care program or  
7 facility of the department of mental health, and said person is not  
8 eligible for services under the provisions of chapter seventy-one B,  
9 the department shall notify the school department of the city or  
10 town in which the person resides of his admission. Following such  
11 notification, the school department shall pay the cost of transport-  
12 ing the person to and from such facility on such days as it is in  
13 session, and said school department shall be reimbursed for such  
14 costs by the department of education.

1     SECTION 4. Said chapter 19 is hereby further amended by  
2 inserting after section 28 the following section: —

3     *Section 28A.* The department of education shall pay the full  
4 cost, subject to appropriation, of transporting persons pursuant to  
5 sections twenty-seven and twenty-eight of this chapter. Any school  
6 department which incurs expenses from transportation of persons  
7 pursuant to said sections twenty-seven and twenty-eight shall sub-  
8 mit, no later than the last Friday of each month, vouchers to said  
9 department for reimbursement of said expenses. Said department  
10 shall certify that the expenses incurred are reasonable and should  
11 be paid as expeditiously as possible but in no event later than sixty  
12 days from receipt of said vouchers.

13     The department of education shall be authorized to conduct  
14 audits of all vouchers submitted to insure that all transportation  
15 expenses incurred by a school department are reasonable and that  
16 transportation has been provided in the most efficient manner  
17 possible.

1     SECTION 5. Section thirteen of chapter seventy-one B of the  
2 General Laws is hereby repealed.