

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts



MICHAEL S. DUKAKIS
GOVERNOR

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

STATE HOUSE • BOSTON 02133

June 20, 1985

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives:

I am submitting herewith for your consideration an Act Providing For Additional Financing For Construction of Facilities at Roxbury Community College.

For more than a decade members of Boston's black community and a number of other dedicated individuals have worked to establish a new, permanent home for Roxbury Community College. I have always supported this effort and I share the community's commitment to this project.

Established in 1970, Roxbury Community College has had to contend with temporary quarters throughout its existence, including what was once described as a "dilapidated" former nursing home on Dudley Street, and several Huntington Avenue buildings previously occupied by Boston State College.

In 1970 and 1980, the General Court approved a total of \$32.5 million to build a new Roxbury Community College, intending to give the college the permanent home it deserves. However, the bids opened yesterday showed how construction costs have risen dramatically in recent years. The bids clearly indicate that the initial appropriation is insufficient to build the first-class facility we all want for the Roxbury community, even with the lowest bid.

A new Roxbury Community College campus on the proposed Columbus Avenue site is a crucial component of the Southwest Corridor Project. Along with new, modern mass transportation facilities in the area, the new college campus will provide a tremendous boost for the surrounding community, and have a catalytic effect on future, private development.

Economic impact studies have concluded the college project will generate some 400 construction jobs, with many going to local residents. Approximately \$7 million of the construction costs, will go to minority business enterprises. The college itself will provide some 200 jobs, a number of which could go to those who live in the area.

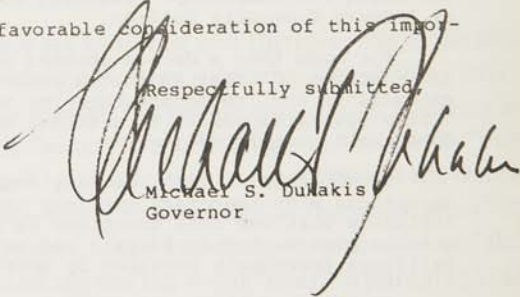
The need for the project is clear. The new college campus is intended to supply a first-class educational experience for some 1,500 full-time students in a four building complex, including an academic building, an administration building, a student union and a theater/media center.

A new Roxbury Community College campus is a priority of the Community Development Coordinating Council, and it is a priority of my administration as well. I urge you to approve the accompanying recommendation for an additional \$7.5 million for the project. It is essential that construction begin as soon as possible. The present construction schedule calls for completing the project in time for the 1987-1988 academic year. If the requested funds are not authorized prior to August 1, 1985, we will be required to rebid the project, a process which would delay the construction schedule for an additional academic year and could add as much as another \$2 million to the cost of the project.

Because this legislation involves the borrowing of money and the pledging of credit of the Commonwealth, I request that the legislation be enacted by two-thirds vote by the yeas and nays in each branch of the general court.

I urge your immediate favorable consideration of this important legislation.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael S. Dukakis
Governor

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR ADDITIONAL FINANCING FOR CONSTRUCTION OF FACILITIES AT ROXBURY COMMUNITY COLLEGE.

WHEREAS, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to immediately authorize additional financing for construction of facilities at Roxbury Community College, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.

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. Item 7515-8811 of section 2 of chapter 578 of the
2 acts of 1980, as most recently amended by section 37 of chapter
3 723 of the acts of 1983, is hereby further amended by striking
4 the figure "30,000,000" and inserting in place thereof "37,500,000".

1 SECTION 2. Section 9 of said chapter 578 of the acts of 1980
2 is hereby amended by striking in the first sentence thereof the
3 words "the sum of one hundred and thirty-five million, four
4 hundred and eighty-seven thousand, and four hundred and thirty-
5 nine dollars" and inserting in place thereof:-- one hundred and
6 forty-two million, nine hundred and eighty-seven thousand, and
7 four hundred and thirty-nine dollars

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

DATE: 10/15/54

FROM: SAC, [illegible]

SUBJECT: [illegible]

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