HOUSE . . . . . No. 3260

By Mr. Collins of Amherst, petition of James G. Collins, Melvin H. King and Henry J. O'Donnell III that the Board of Education be authorized to formulate and carry out special programs for students from low income backgrounds. Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO FORMULATE AND CARRY OUT CERTAIN SPECIAL PROGRAMS FOR STUDENTS FROM LOW INCOME BACKGROUNDS.

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

SECTION 1. The commissioner of Education shall, in accordance with the provisions of this act, carry out a program designed to identify qualified students from low-income families, to prepare them for a program of postsecondary education, and to prepare special services for such students who are pursuing programs of postsecondary education.

SECTION 2. The Commissioner is authorized to make grants to, and contracts with, institutions of higher education, including institutions with vocational and career education programs, combinations of such institutions, public and private agencies and organizations (including professional and scholarly associations), and secondary schools and secondary vocational schools, for planning, developing, or carrying out within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts one or more of the services described in section 3 of this act.

SECTION 3. Services provided through grants and contracts under this act shall be specifically designed to assist in enabling youths from low-income families who have academic potential, but who may lack adequate secondary school preparation or

5 who have special needs as defined in section one of chapter 71B
6 of the General Laws, to enter, continue, or resume a program of
7 postsecondary education, including —
8 (1) programs, designed to —
9 (A) identify qualified youths of financial need with an
10 exceptional potential for postsecondary educational training and
11 encourage them to complete secondary school and undertake
12 postsecondary educational trainingtraining, (B) publicize ex-
13 isting forms of student financial aid furnished by the private and
14 public sectors, and
15 (C) encourage secondary-school or college dropouts of
16 demonstrated aptitude to reenter educational programs, in-
17 cluding postsecondary school programs;
18 (2) programs, designed to —
19 (A) generate skills and motivation necessary for success in
20 education beyond high school, and (B) in which enrollees from
21 low-income backgrounds and with adequate secondary school
22 preparation participate on a substantially full-time basis during
23 all or part of the program;
24 (3) programs, designed to —
25 provide remedial or other special services for students with
26 academic potential (A) who are enrolled or accepted for
27 enrollment at the institution which is the beneficiary of the grant
28 or contract, and (B) who, by reason of deprived educational, or
29 economic background, or physical handicap, are in need of such
30 services to assist them to initiate, continue, or resume their
31 postsecondary education; and
32 (4) resource centers, which —
33 (A) serve areas with major concentrations of low-income
34 populations by providing, in coordination with other applicable
35 programs and services —
36 (i) information with respect to financial and academic
37 assistance available for persons in such areas desiring to pursue
38 a program of post-secondary education;
39 (ii) assistance to such persons in applying for admission to
40 institutions, at which a program of postsecondary education is
41 offered, including preparing necessary applications for use by
42 admission and financial aid officers; and

43 (iii) counseling services and tutorial and other necessary
44 assistance to such persons while attending such institutions; and
45 (B) serve as recruiting and counseling pools to coordinate
46 resources and staff efforts of institutions of higher education and
47 of other institutions offering programs of postsecondary
48 education, in admitting educationally disadvantaged persons.

1 SECTION 4. Enrollees who are participating on an essential-
2 ly full time basis in one or more services being provided under
3 this act may be paid stipends, but not in excess of $40 per month
4 except in exceptional cases as determined by the Commissioner.