

HOUSE No. 898

By Mr. Coakley of Chicopee, petition of William H. McCarthy for legislation to extend to certain blind persons the advantages of university extension courses free of charge. Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Thirty-Eight.

AN ACT EXTENDING TO CERTAIN BLIND PERSONS THE ADVANTAGES OF UNIVERSITY EXTENSION COURSES FREE OF CHARGE.

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 seven of chapter sixty-nine of the General
2 Laws, as most recently amended by chapter three
3 hundred and twenty-seven of the acts of nineteen hun-
4 dred and thirty-seven, is hereby further amended by
5 inserting after the word "and" in the eighteenth line
6 the words: — may offer university extension courses,
7 free of charge, — so as to read as follows: — *Section*
8 7. The department may co-operate with existing
9 institutions of learning in the establishment and con-
10 duct of university extension and correspondence
11 courses; may supervise the administration of all such
12 courses supported in whole or in part by the common-
13 wealth; and also, where deemed advisable, may
14 establish and conduct such courses for the benefit

15 of residents of the commonwealth and, provided that
16 the fees charged exceed the cost of service, may enroll
17 in correspondence courses such non-residents as are
18 approved by the department. The department may
19 offer correspondence courses, free of charge, to in-
20 mates of county and state hospitals and sanatoria,
21 county and state correctional institutions, the state
22 infirmary, and federal hospitals situated within the
23 commonwealth and to veterans, as such term is de-
24 fined in section twenty-one of chapter thirty-one, who
25 come within the class referred to as disabled veterans
26 in section twenty-three of said chapter thirty-one and
27 may offer university extension courses, free of charge,
28 to blind persons who have resided in the common-
29 wealth at least one year immediately prior to the
30 taking of such courses. It may, in accordance with
31 rules and regulations established by it, grant to stu-
32 dents satisfactorily completing such courses suitable
33 certificates.