

By Mr. Petruccelli of Boston, petition of Thomas M. Menino, Anthony Petruccelli and Dianne Wilkerson that the Department of Education be authorized to establish a grant program for historic school buildings. Education, Arts and Humanities.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and One.

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE MASSACHUSETTS HISTORIC SCHOOL BUILDING PROGRAM.

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

- 1 The Commissioner of Education shall make grants to Local
- 2 Educational Authorities in order to repair and renovate school-
- 3 houses, school buildings or other public school property that are
- 4 fifty (50) years or older and to maintain and continue to use such
- 5 schoolhouses, buildings or other public school property while pre-
- 6 serving the interior and exterior craftsmanship and heritage of such
- 7 schoolhouses, school buildings or other public school property.
- 8 The total funding to support this initiative should be made avail-
- 9 able annually based on twenty percent (20%) of the annual alloca-
- 10 tion to the Massachusetts School Building Assistance Program.
- 11 The Massachusetts Department of Education shall develop a
- 12 process for the equitable distribution of these grants. The formula
- 13 for allocation of grants under this chapter shall be arrived at on an
- 14 annual basis by multiplying the total square footage for eligible
- 15 schoolhouses, school buildings or other public school property
- 16 reported by Local Educational Agencies to the Massachusetts
- 17 Department of Education by the average allowance school con-
- 18 struction cost as established annually by the School Building
- 19 Assistance Bureau in accordance with the provisions of Massa-
- 20 chusetts General Laws chapter 70 appendix.
- 21 The Historic School Building Program supported by this legis-
- 22 lation shall:

23 (1) provide annual assistance to urban and suburban school dis-
24 tricts for repairs and renovations of schoolhouses, school build-
25 ings or other public school property that are fifty (50) years or
26 older;

27 (2) provide annual assistance to urban and suburban school dis-
28 tricts to maintain and continue to use schoolhouses, school build-
29 ings or other public school property that are fifty (50) years or
30 older; and

31 (3) provide annual assistance to urban and suburban school dis-
32 tricts to preserve the interior and exterior craftsmanship and her-
33 itage of schoolhouses, school buildings or other public property
34 that are fifty (50) years or older.