

By representatives Kehoe of Dedham and Sullivan of Norwood, petition of Marie-Louise Kehoe and Gregory W. Sullivan relative to certain persons enrolled in vocational educational programs. Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT RELATIVE TO CERTAIN PERSONS ENROLLED IN VOCATIONAL EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS.

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. Chapter 74 of the General Laws, is hereby
2 amended by striking out section 8, as most recently amended by
3 chapter 730 of the acts of 1970, and inserting in place thereof the
4 following section: —

5 *Section 8.* A town where a person resides who is admitted to the
6 school of another town under section seven shall pay a tuition fee
7 to be fixed by the commissioner under the direction of the state
8 board, and in default of payment shall be liable therefore in
9 contract to such other town. If an approved vocational school
10 established by a regional school district accepts a student who
11 resides in a town, other than a member town of said district, which
12 does not maintain such a vocational school, the town in which
13 such student resides shall pay a tuition fee to be fixed by the
14 regional district school committee and approved by the commis-
15 sioner under the direction of the state board; provided, however,
16 that a town shall only be required to pay the tuition of any student
17 residing therein who is enrolled in a post-secondary vocational
18 program to the extent provided in sections 37B through 37F,
19 inclusive, of this chapter.

1 SECTION 2. Said chapter 74 is hereby further amended by
2 inserting after section 37A the following sections: —

3 *Section 37B.* The commissioner under the direction of the state
4 board may approve non-degree granting vocational education

5 programs at the post-secondary level. In making his decision, the
6 commissioner shall take into consideration the availability of sim-
7 ilar training opportunities at the secondary and public regional
8 community college levels.

9 Upon the vote of the school committee or board of trustees of
10 any industrial, technical, or vocational school, tuition and other
11 related fees may be charged to students residing in its city, town or
12 regional school district admitted to approved post-secondary
13 vocational education programs in an amount not to exceed fifty
14 percent of the average per pupil costs of such program.

15 *Section 37C.* A student who resides in a city or town which
16 does not offer approved vocational education programs at the
17 post-secondary level may, upon the approval of the commissioner
18 under the direction of the state board be admitted to such program
19 in another city, town or regional district. In making his determina-
20 tion the commissioner shall take into consideration the opportuni-
21 ties for free vocational training where the applicant resides, the
22 preparation, aptitude and previous record of the applicant, and
23 other relevant circumstances, including the level of state assistance
24 to such program. Tuition and other related fees shall be charged to
25 a student admitted under this provision in an amount not to
26 exceed fifty percent of the average per pupil cost of such program,
27 as approved by the commissioner under the direction of the state
28 board.

29 *Section 37D.* A city, town, regional school district or inde-
30 pendent vocational school admitting students under section 37C
31 shall be entitled to receive state aid under the provisions of chapter
32 70 of the General Laws on account of each such student.

33 *Section 37E.* Each city or town required to pay the tuition of a
34 student enrolled in a post-secondary vocational program under
35 the provisions of this chapter shall pay to the school committee or
36 board of trustees of the industrial, technical, or vocational school
37 in which such student is enrolled a tuition charge as determined by
38 the commissioner. Said tuition charge shall be the difference
39 between the average per pupil cost of the approved post-secondary
40 program, and the sum of the tuition and other related fees charged
41 to each student under section 37C and the per pupil school aid
42 received under chapter 70 on account of students admitted pursu-
43 ant to the provisions of section 37C.

44 In the case of any city or town which fails to pay tuition on
45 account of a student admitted to a post-secondary vocational
46 program under the provisions of section 37C, the commissioner
47 shall be authorized in the succeeding fiscal year, pursuant to
48 section 4 of chapter 70 of the General Laws, to reduce the school
49 aid to which such city or town is otherwise entitled under said
50 chapter 70 in an amount equivalent to the unpaid tuition. The
51 commissioner is further authorized to increase the school aid paid
52 to the city, town, regional school district which provided the
53 post-secondary vocational program to said student in an amount
54 equivalent to the tuition to which it was due under the provisions
55 of this section.

56 *Section 37F.* All receipts from tuition and other related fees
57 shall be paid to the school committee or board of trustees of the
58 city, town, regional school district or independent vocational
59 school admitting students under sections 37B and 37C of this
60 chapter, and shall be deposited with the treasurer of the city, town,
61 regional school district or independent vocational school and held
62 as a separate account. The receipts held in such separate accounts
63 may be expended by said school committee or board of trustees
64 without further appropriation for general educational purposes.

