

HOUSE No. 3990

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, March 27, 2014.

The committee on Labor and Workforce Development to whom was referred the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1719) of Gloria L. Fox and others relative to investment in programs to support youth employment, reports recommending that the accompanying bill (House, No. 3990) ought to pass.

For the committee,

THOMAS P. CONROY.

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In the Year Two Thousand Fourteen

An Act relative to investment in employment programs that save our youth.

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 23H of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after
2 Section 11 the following:-

3 Section 12. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, it shall be the
4 policy of the Commonwealth to invest in low-income, disadvantaged youth with high-impact
5 programs that mitigate violence in inner-city neighborhoods and provide education and job skills
6 in school that promote long-term economic success.

7 The Department of Workforce Development shall coordinate with qualified non-profit
8 community development organizations of its selection on a year-round, at-risk youth
9 employment and career exploration program. The program shall focus on providing low-income,
10 disadvantaged youth with a jump start in building the skills, credentials and attitudes they will
11 need to succeed in school and at work. For students in high school, emphasis shall be placed on
12 MCAS tutoring, and for out-of-school youth, emphasis shall be placed on a GED program or
13 other educational alternatives.

14 The initiative shall receive support services through a case management model which
15 offers assessment, development of an individual service plan, information/referral services, and
16 ongoing counseling.