

**SENATE . . . . . No. 2162**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

**Frederick E. Berry**

*To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:*

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the passage of the accompanying bill:

**An Act constituting a state university system.**

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Frederick E. Berry

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Second Essex

# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

An Act constituting a state university system.

*Whereas*, The deferred operation for this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is forthwith to make the enhancement of the public university system, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.

*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 15A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2006 Official  
2 Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after section 5 the following section: -

3           Section 5A. There shall be within the system of public institutions of higher education a  
4 segment that shall be and be known as the state university system. The following public  
5 institutions of higher education shall constitute the state university system, and each such  
6 institution shall be a state university: Bridgewater State College, Fitchburg State College,  
7 Framingham State College, the Massachusetts College of Art and Design, the Massachusetts  
8 College of Liberal Arts, the Massachusetts Maritime Academy, Salem State College, Westfield  
9 State College and Worcester State College.

10           Anything in any other provision of law to the contrary notwithstanding, each of the state  
11 universities shall have the authority to offer degree programs at the doctoral level consistently

12 with its mission; provided only that the board of higher education shall, in accordance with  
13 section 9(a), first approve the offering of each such degree program.

14 Anything in section 5, in this section 5A or in any other general or special provision of  
15 law to the contrary notwithstanding, the board of trustees of any state university may change the  
16 name of such institution by both including therein the word “university” and deleting there from  
17 the word “college” (or, in the case of the Massachusetts Maritime Academy, the word  
18 “academy”); provided only that, not less than sixty days prior to the effective date of such  
19 change, the board of trustees shall file with the governor, with the clerks of the senate and house  
20 of representatives and with the board of higher education notice of such change and the effective  
21 date thereof.

22 Nothing in this section shall alter any bargaining unit that exists at any state university on  
23 the effective date of this section; and no act done pursuant to this section shall be deemed to be  
24 justification for altering any bargaining unit that exists at any state university on the date  
25 immediately preceding the effective date of such act.

26 Any reference, by connotation or otherwise, to the state colleges generally or to any one  
27 or more of them individually in any general or special law or in any order, by-law, rule,  
28 regulation, deed, indenture or other document or instrument shall be and be deemed to be a  
29 reference, respectively, to the state universities generally or to the corresponding state  
30 universities, whether one or more, individually.

31 Nothing in this section shall be construed to affect the state college building authority or  
32 the obligations, agreements, authorities or responsibilities thereof.