FILED ON: 1/14/2013

## **SENATE . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . No. 587**

### The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Karen E. Spilka

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 to promote higher education among employees of human services provider organizations.

#### PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Karen E. Spilka	Second Middlesex and Norfolk
John W. Scibak	2nd Hampshire
Stephen L. DiNatale	3rd Worcester
Alan Silvia	7th Bristol
Ruth B. Balser	12th Middlesex
Jennifer L. Flanagan	Worcester and Middlesex
Chris Walsh	6th Middlesex
Tom Sannicandro	7th Middlesex
Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr.	12th Hampden
Kenneth J. Donnelly	Fourth Middlesex
John V. Fernandes	10th Worcester
Sal N. DiDomenico	Middlesex and Suffolk
Benjamin Swan	11th Hampden
George N. Peterson, Jr.	9th Worcester
Antonio F. D. Cabral	13th Bristol

**SENATE . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . No. 587** 

By Ms. Spilka, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 587) of Karen E. Spilka, John W. Scibak, Stephen L. DiNatale, Alan Silvia and other members of the General Court for legislation to promote higher education among employees of human services provider organizations. Higher Education.

# [SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION SEE

□ SENATE , NO. *576* OF 2011-2012.]

#### The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen

An Act to promote higher education among employees of human services provider organizations.

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 2010 Official 2 Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after Section 19E the following new section:-
- 3 Section 19 F. The board of higher education, in exercising its powers under section 4 of
- Chapter 15A shall by no later than 180 after the effective date of this act establish a program of
- 5 tuition remission pursuant to which persons employed by providers of social services programs
- 6 that hold contracts with the commonwealth, and spouses of those persons, are provided tuition
- 7 remission benefits for courses or programs taken at any public community college or state
- 8 college or the University of Massachusetts. Tuition remission benefits provided to such persons
- 9 and their spouses shall be on parity, as nearly as possible, with tuition remission benefits
- 10 provided to employees of the commonwealth and their spouses. For purposes of this act, the
- 11 term "social services programs" shall have the meaning specified in section 274 of chapter 110
- 12 of the acts of 1993, as amended. In developing such programs of tuition remission benefits, the
- 13 board of higher education and the administrator of the current tuition remission program

- 14 operated by the Massachusetts Council of Human Services Providers, Inc. shall consult with the
- 15 secretary of health and human services and the secretary of elder affairs.