

SENATE No. 651

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Harriette L. Chandler

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 adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act for reimbursement for costs of the ‘Learning Contract’.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Harriette L. Chandler</i>	<i>First Worcester</i>
<i>James J. O'Day</i>	<i>14th Worcester</i>
<i>Daniel M. Donahue</i>	<i>16th Worcester</i>

SENATE No. 651

By Ms. Chandler, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 651) of Harriette L. Chandler, James J. O'Day and Daniel M. Donahue for legislation for reimbursement for costs of the 'Learning Contract'. Higher Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court
(2015-2016)**

An Act for reimbursement for costs of the 'Learning Contract'.

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. The board of trustees of the University of Massachusetts, in conjunction
2 with the University of Massachusetts Medical School, shall develop and implement provisions
3 for payback in learning contracts entered into by students admitted for the academic year
4 commencing in two thousand and fifteen and for every year thereafter, which shall require
5 payback service, so-called, of at least four years within the commonwealth in areas of primary
6 care, public or community service, or underserved areas, as determined by the commissioner of
7 the department of public health and the learning contract committee, in coordination with the
8 area health education center and state and regional health planning agencies. The
9 commonwealth, not the medical school, shall bear the cost of these learning contracts. In the case
10 of any student who has entered into a learning contract and who does not perform payback
11 service, the difference between the tuition actually paid and the amount of the tuition which
12 would have been otherwise charged shall be required to be repaid to the medical school together
13 with eight percent interest per annum and the medical school shall remit the repayment proceeds

14 to the commonwealth; provided, however, that no payback service or tuition loan repayment
15 shall be required prior to the termination of any internship and residency requirements; provided,
16 further, that interest shall begin to accrue upon completion of any internship requirements. The
17 chancellor shall provide, on an annual basis, a report outlining the number of students
18 participating in said learning contracts, the area of medicine within which payback shall be
19 performed, the effects of payback in the underserved areas of the commonwealth, the number of
20 students utilizing the repayment option, and the aggregate tuition which would have been
21 received by the medical school had students not participated in said learning contracts. Said
22 report shall be submitted annually to the house and senate committees on ways and means by
23 September first.