

SENATE No. 826

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Anne M. Gobi

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 supporting urgent community college equity through student services.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Anne M. Gobi

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Worcester and Hampshire

SENATE No. 826

By Ms. Gobi, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 826) of Anne M. Gobi for legislation to support urgent community college equity through student services. Higher Education.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 833 OF 2021-2022.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court
(2023-2024)**

An Act supporting urgent community college equity through student services.

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 Massachusetts General Laws is hereby amended by
2 inserting the following new section: -

3 Section XX: It is hereby declared to be the policy of the commonwealth to support
4 community college student success through wraparound supports and services to improve
5 outcomes for students through a grant program to be known as the Supporting Urgent
6 Community College Equity through Student Services program, hereinafter referred to as the
7 SUCCESS program.

8 Subject to appropriation, the SUCCESS program shall provide grants to community
9 colleges to provide wraparound supports and services to improve outcomes for the most
10 vulnerable student populations including, but not limited to, low-income, first generation,

11 minority, and disabled students and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning
12 students.

13 In conjunction with the Massachusetts Association of Community Colleges, the
14 department of higher education shall report to the joint committee on higher education and the
15 house and senate committees on ways and means on the success of students supported by the
16 fund, including any regulations, guidelines, or criteria used to distribute the funds, and on the
17 final distribution of funds to campuses; and provided further, that funds appropriated for this
18 item shall not revert but shall be made available for this item in future fiscal years.

19 SECTION 2. Chapter 29 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after
20 section 2CCCCC the following section: -

21 Section 2SSSSS. (a) There is hereby established and set up on the books of the
22 Commonwealth a separate fund to be known as the Supporting Urgent Community College
23 Equity through Student Services Trust Fund, hereinafter referred to as the SUCCESS Fund, to
24 which shall be credited any appropriations, bond proceeds or other monies authorized by the
25 general court and specifically designated to be credited thereto. Bunker Hill Community
26 College, hereinafter referred to as the college, shall hold the SUCCESS Fund in an account or
27 accounts separate from other funds or accounts; provided, that the SUCCESS Fund shall be
28 administered by the Massachusetts Association of Community Colleges. Amounts credited to the
29 fund shall be used by the college to carry out the purposes of the fund as set forth in this section.
30 Any monies unexpended at the end of the fiscal year shall remain in the fund and may be
31 expended by the college without further appropriation.

32 (b) The fund shall be used for wraparound support activities including, but not be limited
33 to, peer mentors, academic skills workshops, field trips to 4-year schools, and targeted academic,
34 career, transfer, and scholarship advising.

35 (c) The funds shall be disbursed based on a formula and criteria developed by the
36 Massachusetts Association of Community Colleges in coordination with the Department of
37 Higher Education.

38 (d) In conjunction with the Massachusetts Association of Community Colleges, the
39 department of higher education shall report to the joint committee on higher education and the
40 house and senate committees on ways and means on the success of students supported by the
41 fund, including any regulations, guidelines, or criteria used to distribute the funds, and on the
42 final distribution of funds to campuses.