

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1253**

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Christine P. Barber and Michael P. Kushmerek***

*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 relative to social work uplifting practices and exam removal.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Christine P. Barber</i>	<i>34th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/19/2023</i>
<i>Michael P. Kushmerek</i>	<i>3rd Worcester</i>	<i>1/19/2023</i>
<i>Lindsay N. Sabadosa</i>	<i>1st Hampshire</i>	<i>1/20/2023</i>
<i>Kenneth I. Gordon</i>	<i>21st Middlesex</i>	<i>1/24/2023</i>
<i>Susannah M. Whipps</i>	<i>2nd Franklin</i>	<i>1/24/2023</i>
<i>Brian W. Murray</i>	<i>10th Worcester</i>	<i>1/25/2023</i>
<i>Steven Ultrino</i>	<i>33rd Middlesex</i>	<i>1/25/2023</i>
<i>Christopher J. Worrell</i>	<i>5th Suffolk</i>	<i>1/25/2023</i>
<i>Samantha Montaño</i>	<i>15th Suffolk</i>	<i>1/25/2023</i>
<i>Steven Owens</i>	<i>29th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/25/2023</i>
<i>David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf</i>	<i>17th Worcester</i>	<i>1/27/2023</i>
<i>Jessica Ann Giannino</i>	<i>16th Suffolk</i>	<i>1/27/2023</i>
<i>David M. Rogers</i>	<i>24th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/27/2023</i>
<i>Sal N. DiDomenico</i>	<i>Middlesex and Suffolk</i>	<i>1/27/2023</i>
<i>Margaret R. Scarsdale</i>	<i>1st Middlesex</i>	<i>1/30/2023</i>
<i>Ryan M. Hamilton</i>	<i>15th Essex</i>	<i>1/30/2023</i>
<i>Aaron L. Saunders</i>	<i>7th Hampden</i>	<i>1/31/2023</i>
<i>Jack Patrick Lewis</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/31/2023</i>

<i>Erika Uyterhoeven</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/1/2023</i>
<i>Patrick M. O'Connor</i>	<i>First Plymouth and Norfolk</i>	<i>2/1/2023</i>
<i>Vanna Howard</i>	<i>17th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/1/2023</i>
<i>Kevin G. Honan</i>	<i>17th Suffolk</i>	<i>2/2/2023</i>
<i>Thomas M. Stanley</i>	<i>9th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/3/2023</i>
<i>Jon Santiago</i>	<i>9th Suffolk</i>	<i>2/6/2023</i>
<i>Mary S. Keefe</i>	<i>15th Worcester</i>	<i>2/6/2023</i>
<i>Christopher Hendricks</i>	<i>11th Bristol</i>	<i>2/8/2023</i>
<i>Tricia Farley-Bouvier</i>	<i>2nd Berkshire</i>	<i>2/9/2023</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	<i>2/9/2023</i>
<i>James J. O'Day</i>	<i>14th Worcester</i>	<i>2/9/2023</i>
<i>Adrian C. Madaro</i>	<i>1st Suffolk</i>	<i>2/13/2023</i>
<i>Priscila S. Sousa</i>	<i>6th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/14/2023</i>
<i>Rob Consalvo</i>	<i>14th Suffolk</i>	<i>2/14/2023</i>
<i>Simon Cataldo</i>	<i>14th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/22/2023</i>
<i>Kate Lipper-Garabedian</i>	<i>32nd Middlesex</i>	<i>2/22/2023</i>
<i>Natalie M. Higgins</i>	<i>4th Worcester</i>	<i>2/23/2023</i>
<i>James K. Hawkins</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>	<i>2/24/2023</i>
<i>Tram T. Nguyen</i>	<i>18th Essex</i>	<i>2/27/2023</i>
<i>Russell E. Holmes</i>	<i>6th Suffolk</i>	<i>3/1/2023</i>
<i>Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr.</i>	<i>12th Hampden</i>	<i>3/2/2023</i>
<i>James C. Arena-DeRosa</i>	<i>8th Middlesex</i>	<i>3/3/2023</i>
<i>James Arciero</i>	<i>2nd Middlesex</i>	<i>3/9/2023</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1253**

By Representatives Barber of Somerville and Kushmerek of Fitchburg, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1253) of Christine P. Barber, Michael P. Kushmerek and others that the Department of Education create and administer a field placement grant program to ensure a stable, diverse workforce of licensed social workers. Higher Education.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

An Act relative to social work uplifting practices and exam removal.

*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 112 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2020 official version,  
2 shall be amended by inserting after Section 135C the following section:

3 Section 135D. To ensure a stable, diverse workforce of licensed social workers in the  
4 Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and to provide for increased support and retention of  
5 practicing licensed social workers, The Department of Education (DOE) shall create and  
6 administer a field placement grant program (FPGP). This program shall, subject to appropriation,  
7 grant funding to designated recipients with a specific focus on recruiting and retaining Masters of  
8 Social Work (MSW) students from historically marginalized communities and low-income  
9 communities. Funds to establish this program shall be allocated from state, federal, or other  
10 dedicated resources, including existing trust funds.

11 For the purposes of this section, eligible applicants must attend a school of social work  
12 Master's Program physically located in Massachusetts that has been accredited by the Council on  
13 Social Work Education (CSWE).

14 To be eligible for consideration, applicants must submit the following:

15 (i) Applicant demographic background information, including but not limited to: race,  
16 ethnicity, geographic location in the state, and date of birth for purposes of data collection

17 (ii) Applicant's school of social work, type of Master's program, and GPA

18 (iii) Applicant's stated and signed commitment to working in Massachusetts post-  
19 graduation for at least 2 years

20 (iv) Applicant's one-page statement on the importance of this stipend in the applicant's  
21 life and how the grant will support their educational goals and the workforce needs of the  
22 Commonwealth.

23 Priority for the FPGP will be to first-generation college students, and at least 50 percent  
24 of recipients awarded grants must identify as Black, Indigenous, or people of color. Applications  
25 will be submitted and considered on a rolling basis between January 1st and no later than March  
26 1st of each calendar year. Recipients of stipends shall be notified no later than April 15th of said  
27 calendar year.

28 Stipends shall be allocated as follows:

29 (i) A current MSW student in good standing completing their first-year field placement of  
30 16 hours per week shall be eligible for a monthly stipend of \$1,000 per month, not to exceed  
31 \$8,000 annually.

32 (ii) A current MSW student in good standing completing their second-year field  
33 placement of 24 hours per week shall be eligible for a monthly stipend of \$2,000 per month, not  
34 to exceed a total of \$16,000 annually.

35 (iii) Advanced standing students who are only required to conduct one field placement  
36 shall be eligible for the second-year field placement stipend.

37 Applicant data, including application details submitted, shall be tracked by the  
38 department such that the program efficacy can be evaluated.

39 SECTION 2. Section 131 of Chapter 112 of the General Laws, is hereby amended in the  
40 fourth paragraph by striking the words “Said individual shall also furnish evidence satisfactory to  
41 the board that he has passed an examination prepared by the board for this purpose”

42 SECTION 3. Said Section 131 of Chapter 112 of the General Laws, is hereby further  
43 amended in the fifth paragraph by striking in line one the following, “the examination and” and  
44 in line four the following “the examination or”

45 SECTION 4. Said Section 131 of Chapter 112 of the General Laws, is hereby further  
46 amended in the sixth paragraph by striking the following, “and has passed a specialty  
47 examination in clinical social work prepared by the board for this purpose.”

48 SECTION 5. Section 132 of Chapter 112 of the General Laws, is hereby struck in its  
49 entirety.

50 SECTION 6. Section 136 of said Chapter 112 of the General Laws, as appearing in the  
51 official 2022 version, shall be amended by inserting after the fourth paragraph the following:

52 Licensed independent clinical social workers (LICSWs) engaged in independent clinical  
53 practice who provide one-on-one supervision to a licensed certified social worker, Master's of  
54 social work intern, or Bachelor's of social work intern, shall be eligible to receive up to eight  
55 continuing education credits during a licensing period for this supervision.