

HOUSE No. 1062

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Jeffrey N. Roy

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 to establish a commission to study a "Pay it Forward" model of higher education financing.

PETITION OF:

| NAME: | DISTRICT/ADDRESS: |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| <i>Jeffrey N. Roy</i> | <i>10th Norfolk</i> |
| <i>Thomas A. Golden, Jr.</i> | <i>16th Middlesex</i> |
| <i>Marjorie C. Decker</i> | <i>25th Middlesex</i> |
| <i>Claire D. Cronin</i> | <i>11th Plymouth</i> |
| <i>Paul McMurtry</i> | <i>11th Norfolk</i> |
| <i>David M. Rogers</i> | <i>24th Middlesex</i> |
| <i>James J. Dwyer</i> | <i>30th Middlesex</i> |
| <i>Tricia Farley-Bouvier</i> | <i>3rd Berkshire</i> |
| <i>Diana DiZoglio</i> | <i>14th Essex</i> |
| <i>Jason M. Lewis</i> | <i>Fifth Middlesex</i> |
| <i>Mary S. Keefe</i> | <i>15th Worcester</i> |
| <i>Sean Garballey</i> | <i>23rd Middlesex</i> |
| <i>Denise Provost</i> | <i>27th Middlesex</i> |
| <i>Chris Walsh</i> | <i>6th Middlesex</i> |

HOUSE No. 1062

By Mr. Roy of Franklin, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1062) of Jeffrey N. Roy and others for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) of the "Pay it Forward" model of higher education financing. Higher Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act to establish a commission to study a "Pay it Forward" model of higher education financing.

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. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, a special
2 commission is hereby established to conduct a comprehensive study relative the practical and
3 fiscal impacts of adopting a program in Massachusetts similar to Washington and Oregon’s Pay
4 It Forward Higher Education Financing plan. Said study shall focus on the particular intricacies,
5 details, and mechanics of funding, implementing, legislating and administering a “Pay it
6 Forward” model of Higher Education financing. Said department, in the conduct of said study,
7 shall survey similar programs within the 50 states, with specific regard to funding and
8 programmatic practicality and feasibility. Prior to issuing its recommendations, the commission
9 shall conduct not fewer than 4 public hearings across regions of the commonwealth and provide
10 quarterly preliminary reports to be filed with the Senate and House Clerks and the Senate and
11 House chairmen of the Joint Committee on Higher Education. Said department shall report its

12 final findings no later than December 31, 2016 to be filed with the Senate and House Clerks and
13 the Senate and House chairmen of the Joint Committee on Higher Education.

14 SECTION 2. Said commission shall consist of two (2) members of the Senate: one of
15 whom shall be the Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Higher Education or his/her designee,
16 and one of whom shall be a member of the minority party who shall be appointed by the minority
17 leader; provided, however, that one (1) member of the Senate shall be designated as Co-chair of
18 the Commission; two (2) members of the House of Representatives: one of whom shall be the
19 House Chair of the Joint Committee on Higher Education or his/her designee, and one of whom
20 shall be a member of the minority party who shall be appointed by the minority leader; provided,
21 however, that one (1) member of the House of Representatives shall be designated as Co-chair of
22 the Commission; the Commissioner of the Massachusetts Office of Student Financial Assistance,
23 or his/her designee; the president of the University of Massachusetts, or his/her designee; the
24 Executive Director of the Massachusetts Educational Financing Authority, or his/her designee;
25 and two (2) persons to be appointed by the governor: one (1) from the business community, and
26 one (1) from the Executive office for Administration and Finance. Members shall not receive
27 compensation for their services but may receive reimbursement for the reasonable expenses
28 incurred in carrying out their responsibilities as members of the commission. The commissioner
29 of Higher Education for Massachusetts shall furnish reasonable staff and other support for the
30 work of the commission.