

HOUSE No. 1665

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Carlos Gonzalez

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 state grants targeting minority communities.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Carlos Gonzalez

10th Hampden

Russell E. Holmes

6th Suffolk

HOUSE No. 1665

By Mr. Gonzalez of Springfield, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1665) of Carlos Gonzalez and Russell E. Holmes relative to state grants targeting minority communities and minority businesses. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 3520 OF 2015-2016.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
(2017-2018)**

An Act relative to state grants targeting minority communities.

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 General Court finds and declares that:
- 2 (1) the commonwealth should invest in minorities businesses based on diverse national or
- 3 ethnic, cultural, religious and linguistic identity to protect their existence and flourish;
- 4 (2) the commonwealth has one of the highest wealth gaps in the country by race and
- 5 ethnicity; and
- 6 (3) inadequate access to financial capital continues to limit the growth of minority-owned
- 7 businesses;

8 SECTION 2. The commonwealth shall endeavor to participate in state grants each year
9 that provide, in the aggregate total not less than 15 per cent of the total state grant committed by

- 10 the commonwealth in that year, to minority communities and minority businesses whose board
- 11 has more than 50 per cent of its members as minorities.