

**SENATE . . . . . No. 00565**

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

***Gale D. Candaras***

*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 passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act to promote higher education among employees of human services provider organizations..

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Gale D. Candaras</i>	<i>First Hampden and Hampshire</i>
<i>Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr.</i>	<i>12th Hampden</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>
<i>David Paul Linsky</i>	<i>5th Middlesex</i>
<i>Brian Ashe</i>	<i>2nd Hampden</i>
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>
<i>Karen E. Spilka</i>	<i>Second Middlesex and Norfolk</i>
<i>Benjamin Swan</i>	<i>11th Hampden</i>

# SENATE . . . . . No. 00565

By Ms. Candaras, petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 565) of Swan, Spilka, Puppolo and other members of the General Court for legislation to promote higher education among employees of human services provider organizations [Joint Committee on Higher Education].

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE  
□ SENATE  
□ , NO. 597 OF 2009-2010.]

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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**In the Year Two Thousand Eleven**  
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An Act to promote higher education among employees of human services provider organizations..

*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 General Laws is hereby amended by adding the  
2 following new section:--

3 Section 19F. The board of higher education, in exercising its powers under section four  
4 of chapter fifteen A, shall by no later than one hundred eighty days after the effective date of this  
5 act establish a program of tuition remission pursuant to which persons employed by providers of  
6 social services programs that hold contracts with the commonwealth, and spouses of those  
7 persons, are provided tuition remission benefits for courses or programs taken at any public  
8 community college or state college or the University of Massachusetts. Tuition remission

9 benefits provided to such persons and their spouses shall be on parity, as nearly as possible, with  
10 tuition remission benefits provided to employees of the commonwealth and their spouses. For  
11 purposes of this act the term "social services programs" shall have the meaning specified in  
12 section 1 of chapter 118G. In developing such programs of tuition remission benefits, the board  
13 of higher education and the administrator of the current tuition remission program operated by  
14 the Massachusetts Council of Human Services Providers, Inc. shall consult with the secretaries  
15 of health and human services and elder affairs.