

SENATE No. 662

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Eileen M. Donoghue

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 reforming institutional eligibility requirements for state-based financial aid.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Eileen M. Donoghue

James Arciero

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

First Middlesex

2nd Middlesex

SENATE No. 662

By Ms. Donoghue, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 662) of Eileen M. Donoghue and James Arciero for legislation to reform institutional eligibility requirements for state-based financial aid. Higher Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act reforming institutional eligibility requirements for state-based financial aid.

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 16 of chapter 15A of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding at the end
2 thereof the following paragraph:-

3 No state scholarship funds under this section, any other section of this chapter, or other
4 state student financial aid however provided, shall be made available to, or on behalf, of any
5 student enrolled in any postsecondary educational institution which the board of higher education
6 determines does not meet the requirements of this paragraph. To meet the requirements of this
7 paragraph, a postsecondary educational institution shall demonstrate to the board that it has: (a)
8 graduation rates of not less than 30% for undergraduate students taking 150% or less of the
9 expected time to complete degree requirements, as most recently reported by the U.S.
10 Department of Higher Education, provided, that graduation rates shall include students who
11 transfer; or (b) an average 3 year cohort default rate that is not more than 20%, as most recently
12 reported by the U.S. Department of Education. The board of higher education shall promulgate

13 rules and regulations to implement this paragraph including, but not limited to, procedures and
14 processes for annually determining which postsecondary educational institutions meet the
15 requirements of this paragraph, and a process for an institution to appeal a determination that
16 they do not meet the necessary requirements. The board of higher education shall annually post
17 a list of institutions that meet the requirements of this paragraph on the department of higher
18 education's website.