

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 510**

By Mr. O’Flaherty of Chelsea, petition of Eugene L. O’Flaherty relative to the tuition rates of charter schools in the Commonwealth. Education.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

In the Year Two Thousand and Seven.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO CHARTER SCHOOLS.

*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 89 of Chapter 71 of the Massachusetts General Laws, as  
2 appearing in the 2002 Official Edition is hereby amended by striking  
3 out the third and fourth sentences in subsection (i) and inserting in  
4 place thereof the following:

5 (i) In any fiscal year, a public school district’s total charter school  
6 tuition payment to the commonwealth’s charter schools shall not  
7 exceed nine per cent of said district’s net school spending; provided,  
8 however, that a public school district’s total charter tuition payment  
9 to the commonwealth’s charter schools may equal twenty per cent of  
10 said district’s net school spending if the board determines the MCAS  
11 scores for a school district place said district in the lowest ten per-  
12 cent of all statewide MCAS test performance scores for two consec-  
13 utive years. The board shall not approve additional applications for  
14 any new charter schools in these designated school districts if the  
15 district’s MCAS scores rise above the bottom ten per cent of all  
16 statewide MCAS scores for any two consecutive years after said  
17 determination is made by the board. The commonwealth shall incur  
18 charter school tuition payments for siblings attending common-  
19 wealth charter schools to the extent that their attendance would oth-  
20 erwise cause said school district’s charter tuition payments to exceed  
21 nine per cent of said school district’s net school spending.