

SENATE NO. 674

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE NURSING AND ALLIED HEALTH TRUST FUND

*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. (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of any general or special law to the contrary, there
2 is hereby established and set up on the books of the Commonwealth a separate trust fund to be
3 known as the Massachusetts Nursing and Allied Health Workforce Development Trust Fund,
4 hereinafter referred to as the health care workforce trust fund, to which shall be credited any
5 appropriations, bond proceeds or other monies authorized by the general court and specifically
6 designated to be credited thereto, and additional funds including federal grants or loans, or private
7 donations made available to the chancellor of higher education for this purpose. The board of higher
8 education shall hold the health workforce trust fund in an account or accounts separate from other
9 funds or accounts. Amounts credited to the health care workforce trust fund shall be expended by
10 the chancellor of higher education to carry out the purposes set forth in subsection (b). Any balance
11 in the trust fund at the close of a fiscal year shall be available for expenditure in subsequent fiscal
12 years and shall not revert to the general fund.

13 (b) The public purposes of the Massachusetts Nursing and Allied Health Workforce Development
14 Trust Fund shall be to develop and support, in consultation with the Massachusetts Nursing and
15 Allied Health Workforce Development Advisory Committee, short and long-term strategies that
16 increase the number of Massachusetts public and private higher education faculty and students who
17 participate in programs that support careers in fields related to nursing and allied health. The
18 chancellor of higher education may expend from the health care workforce trust fund such
19 administrative monies as may be necessary for the administration of the Massachusetts Nursing and
20 Allied Health Workforce Development Initiative. In furtherance of these public purposes, the
21 chancellor of higher education shall expend the health care workforce trust fund monies on
22 activities that are calculated to increase the number of qualified nursing and allied health faculty
23 and students in the commonwealth and improve the nursing and allied health educational offerings
24 available in public higher education institutions. Grants and other disbursements and activities may
25 involve, without limitation, the University of Massachusetts, state and community colleges, private
26 higher education institutions in partnership with public higher education institutions, business and
27 industry partnerships, regional alliances, workforce investment boards, 501(c)(3) organizations and
28 other community groups which promote the nursing profession. Grants and other disbursements and
29 activities may support, without limitation: (i) the goal of rapidly increasing the number of nurses
30 and allied health workers (ii) enhancing the role of the system of public higher education, as
31 institutions and in partnerships with other stakeholders, in meeting the short and long-term
32 workforce challenges in the nursing and allied health professions and; (iii) the development and use
33 of innovative curricula, courses, programs and modes of delivering education in nursing and allied
34 health professions for faculty and students in these fields and; (iv) activities with the growing
35 network of stakeholders in the nursing and allied health professions to create, implement, share and

36 make broadly and publicly available best practices and innovative programs relative to instruction,
37 development of partnerships and expanding and maintaining faculty and student involvement in
38 careers in these fields; and (v) strengthening the institutional capacity to develop and implement
39 long-term programs and policies to respond effectively to these challenges.