

# The Massachusetts General Court



## Resolutions

### URGING SUPPORT FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENT PROGRAMS.

**WHEREAS**, INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION, WHICH IS THE EXCHANGE OF STUDENTS AND TEACHERS BETWEEN COUNTRIES, IS AN IMPORTANT COMPONENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION; AND

**WHEREAS**, IN THE 2005 TO 2006 ACADEMIC YEAR ALONE, OVER 28,009 INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS ENROLLED IN COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES IN THE COMMONWEALTH, CONTRIBUTING TO A DIVERSE ACADEMIC ENVIRONMENT AND NEARLY \$900,000,000 TO THE COMMONWEALTH'S ECONOMY; AND

**WHEREAS**, THE 9/11 COMMISSION REPORT RECOMMENDED INCREASED EXCHANGES BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND OTHER NATIONS; AND

**WHEREAS**, A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE IS CRITICAL FOR STUDENTS FACING THE CHALLENGES OF THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY; AND

**WHEREAS**, POLICIES AND PROGRAMS THAT PREPARE CITIZENS FOR A GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT HAVE BECOME INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT TO NATIONAL SECURITY, FOREIGN POLICY, ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS, REDUCTION OF CONFLICT AND CAPACITY FOR TOLERANCE; AND

**WHEREAS**, THE COMMONWEALTH IS COMMITTED TO ENCOURAGING STUDENTS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES TO STUDY IN ITS SCHOOLS; AND

**WHEREAS**, HIS EXCELLENCY, DEVAL L. PATRICK, THE GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH, ISSUED A PROCLAMATION IN NOVEMBER 2006, WHICH DECLARED THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 13 THROUGH 17, 2006, AS INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION WEEK IN RECOGNITION OF THE COMMONWEALTH'S COMMITMENT TO ENCOURAGING STUDENTS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES TO STUDY IN ITS SCHOOLS; AND

**WHEREAS**, INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION AND EXCHANGE STUDENT PROGRAMS CONTRIBUTE SIGNIFICANTLY TO THE CULTURAL DIVERSITY OF THE COMMONWEALTH'S EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND ENHANCE THE EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE OF ALL STUDENTS; AND

**WHEREAS**, THE STUDY OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES AND CULTURES PROVIDES STUDENTS WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO BROADEN THEIR KNOWLEDGE OF THE WORLD; AND

**WHEREAS**, MASSACHUSETTS STUDENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO STUDY ABROAD TO GAIN OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONAL GROWTH AND TO ENHANCE THEIR GLOBAL SKILLS AND CULTURAL AWARENESS, MAKING THEM MORE MARKETABLE IN TOMORROW'S WORKFORCE; AND

**WHEREAS**, QUALIFIED STUDENTS AND TEACHERS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES SHOULD BE EQUALLY ENCOURAGED TO STUDY IN THE COMMONWEALTH TO FURTHER THE FREE EXCHANGE OF IDEAS AND TO FACILITATE AN UNDERSTANDING OF, AND APPRECIATION FOR, DIFFERENT CULTURES; THEREFORE BE IT

**RESOLVED**, THAT THE MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL COURT RESPECTFULLY URGES HIS EXCELLENCY, DEVAL L. PATRICK, THE GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH, TO ESTABLISH AN INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION POLICY THAT WOULD INCREASE THE NUMBER OF MASSACHUSETTS COLLEGE STUDENTS STUDYING ABROAD AND WOULD EXPAND PARTICIPATION TO INCLUDE INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS AND SCHOLARS STUDYING OR CONDUCTING RESEARCH IN THE COMMONWEALTH; AND BE IT FURTHER

**RESOLVED**, THAT A COPY OF THESE RESOLUTIONS BE FORWARDED BY THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO HIS EXCELLENCY, DEVAL L. PATRICK, THE GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH, THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, THE BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION, THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION AND THE CHANCELLOR OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, ADOPTED, FEBRUARY 14, 2008.

*Salvatore J. DiMuzio*  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

*Steven T. Jany*  
CLERK OF THE HOUSE

SENATE, ADOPTED IN CONCURRENCE, FEBRUARY 14, 2008.

*Thomas H. Kelly*  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

*William F. Wilson*  
CLERK OF THE SENATE

OFFERED BY:  
*Lida E. Harkins*  
REPRESENTATIVE LIDA E. HARKINS

*Gale D. Candaras*  
SENATOR GALE D. CANDARAS

*Cory Atkins*

REPRESENTATIVE CORY ATKINS

*Ruth B. Balser*

REPRESENTATIVE RUTH B. BALSER

*Christine E. Camarano*

REPRESENTATIVE CHRISTINE E. CAMAVAN

*Patricia A. Haddad*

REPRESENTATIVE PATRICIA A. HADDAD

*Robert S. Hargraves*

REPRESENTATIVE ROBERT S. HARGRAVES

*Louis L. Kafka*

REPRESENTATIVE LOUIS L. KAFKA

*Kay Khan*

REPRESENTATIVE KAY KHAN

*David Paul Linsky*

REPRESENTATIVE DAVID PAUL LINSKY

*Barbara A. L'Italien*

REPRESENTATIVE BARBARA A. L'ITALIEN

*Liz Malia*

REPRESENTATIVE ELIZABETH A. MALIA

*Sarah K. Peake*

REPRESENTATIVE SARAH K. PEAKE

*Alice Manlon Peisch*

REPRESENTATIVE ALICE MANLON PEISCH

*Denise Provost*

REPRESENTATIVE DENISE PROVOST

*Byron Rushing*

REPRESENTATIVE BYRON RUSHING

*Theodore C. Spiliotis*

REPRESENTATIVE THEODORE C. SPILIOTIS

*Joyce A. Spiliotis*

REPRESENTATIVE JOYCE A. SPILIOTIS

*Marie E. St. Fleur*

REPRESENTATIVE MARIE E. ST. FLEUR

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REPRESENTATIVE BENJAMIN SWAN

*Anthony J. Verga*

REPRESENTATIVE ANTHONY J. VERGA

*Alice W. Wolf*

REPRESENTATIVE ALICE W. WOLF

*Robert A. Antonioni*

SENATOR ROBERT A. ANTONIONI

*Edward M. Augustus, Jr.*

SENATOR EDWARD M. AUGUSTUS, JR.

*Brian A. Joyce*

SENATOR BRIAN A. JOYCE

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SENATOR MARK C. MONTIGNY

*Stanley C. Rosenberg*

SENATOR STANLEY C. ROSENBERG

*Susan C. Tucker*

SENATOR SUSAN C. TUCKER