

Resolution for Transportation Reform to Prevent Price Gouging of School Districts

Whereas, it is imperative to ensure equitable access to transportation services for all students, including those who are homeless, in foster care, or migrant students; and

Whereas, private transportation companies have been observed engaging in price gouging practices, setting exorbitant rates for transportation services provided to school districts seeking services for homeless, foster care, and migrant children; and

Whereas, such price gouging severely impacts the ability of school districts to allocate resources effectively and provide essential services to vulnerable student populations; and

Whereas, there is a pressing need to hold private transportation companies accountable for their pricing practices and to implement measures that safeguard against the exploitation of school districts in need of transportation services;

Be it resolved by the Massachusetts Association of School Committees

The MASC membership hereby condemns the practice of price gouging by private transportation companies when providing transportation services to school districts, particularly those serving homeless, foster care, and migrant children.

The MASC membership calls for the immediate implementation of reforms to regulate and prohibit price gouging by private transportation companies when contracting with school districts for transportation services.

Private transportation companies seeking to provide transportation services to school districts shall be required to adhere to a pricing structure that ensures fair and reasonable rates, with particular consideration given to districts serving homeless, foster care, and migrant children.

A cap on the daily rate of transportation services provided by private transportation companies to school districts shall be established based on the recommendations and should establish a government oversight agency to ensure that rates remain affordable and within reasonable bounds.

The State of Massachusetts shall establish oversight mechanisms to monitor and enforce compliance with the established pricing structure and caps on rates, holding private transportation companies accountable for any violations thereof.

This resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.