



# City of Cambridge

AMENDED ORDER  
32.

IN CITY COUNCIL

February 9, 1998

COUNCILLOR BORN  
COUNCILLOR DAVIS  
MAYOR DUEHAY  
VICE MAYOR GALLUCCIO  
COUNCILLOR REEVES  
COUNCILLOR RUSSELL  
COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN  
COUNCILLOR TOOMEY  
COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU

WHEREAS: Ms. Bela Bhasin is a tenured teacher in the Cambridge Public Schools; and

WHEREAS: She has provided exceptional service in her role as teacher in a diverse, urban, multicultural classroom; and

WHEREAS: She has demonstrated exceptional ability in meeting the needs of each student in her charge; and

WHEREAS: She is recognized as a mentor, teacher and supervisor to teachers-in-training so that they can better understand how to meet the needs of children in similar classrooms; and

WHEREAS: She has served as an advisor to the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards in the development of early childhood teaching standards; and

WHEREAS: She has presented at a variety of conferences and educational forums nationwide; and

WHEREAS: Ms. Bela Bhasin is sought after to become involved in nationally recognized innovative programs in education such as Harvard University's Project Zero; and

WHEREAS: Ms. Bela Bhasin has made additional contributions to the Cambridge School Community by serving as chair of the Professional Development Committee, Curriculum Committee, and co-chair of the Committee of Race, Class and Culture; and

WHEREAS: In light of the need to reach the target number of minority teachers for the benefit of all Cambridge students and the difficulty we have had doing so despite active recruitment; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That this City Council go on record in support of Ms. Bela Bhasin's application now on appeal at the INS in Vermont to obtain her green card; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a video tape of the presentation made on this matter to the City Council to the INS in Vermont; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to Ms. Bela Bhasin, the INS, the entire Massachusetts Congressional delegation, President Clinton, Jan Pasquel, Regional Secretary of Education and Secretary of Education Riley on behalf of the entire City Council.

In City Council February 9, 1998.

Adopted as amended by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;



ATTEST:-

D. Margaret Drury  
City Clerk



# City of Cambridge

ORIGINAL ORDER  
32.

IN CITY COUNCIL

February 9, 1998

## COUNCILLOR BORN

WHEREAS: Ms. Bhasin is a tenured teacher in the Cambridge Public Schools; and

WHEREAS: She has provided exceptional service in her role as teacher in a diverse, urban, multicultural classroom; and

WHEREAS: She has demonstrated exceptional ability in meeting the needs of each student in her charge; and

WHEREAS: She is recognized as a mentor, teacher and supervisor to teachers-in-training so that they can better understand how to meet the needs of children in similar classrooms; and

WHEREAS: She has served as an advisor to the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards in the development of early childhood teaching standards; and

WHEREAS: She has presented at a variety of conferences and educational forums nationwide; and

WHEREAS: Ms. Bhasin is sought after to become involved in nationally recognized innovative programs in education such as Harvard University's Project Zero; and

WHEREAS: Ms. Bhasin has made additional contributions to the Cambridge School Community by serving as chair of the Professional Development Committee, Curriculum Committee, and co-chair of the Committee of Race, Class and Culture; and

WHEREAS: In light of the need to reach the target number of minority teachers for the benefit of all Cambridge students and the difficulty we have had doing so despite active recruitment; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That this City Council go on record in support of Ms. Bhasin's application now on appeal at the INS in Vermont to obtain her green card; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to Ms. Bhasin on behalf of the entire City Council.

31

**Born Orders:**

#1 See Attached order from School Committe and redraft to fit City Council format

#2

331

Whereas: Recent interruptions of telephone service in Cambridge, particularly in the Porter Square, West Cambridge, and North Cambridge area have become troublingly persistent, frequent, long-lasting, and

Whereas: In at least one instance this interruption of service has endangered the health of a resident who needed to be in touch with her physicians and hospital,

Therefore be it Ordered: That the City Manager contact Bell Atlantic with these concerns and ask for an explanation of recent service problems and a plan to address these deficiencies in the immediate future

#3 Sign on to Sullivan order regarding the polaroid project and curb cuts

# City of Cambridge

MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council 2/9, 1998

Order No. 32

YEA	NAY	ABSENT	PRESENT	
✓				Ms. Kathleen L. Born
✓				Ms. Henrietta Davis
✓				V. Mayor Anthony Galluccio
✓				Mr. Kenneth E. Reeves
✓				Ms. Sheila T. Russell
✓				Mr. Michael A. Sullivan
✓				Mr. Timothy J. Toomey, Jr.
✓				Ms. Katherine Triantafillou
✓				Mayor Francis H. Duehay

9      0      0      0

**Cambridge United for Education**

c/o 39 R.C. Kelley Street  
Cambridge, MA 02138  
617-491-7390

Co-chairs:  
Richard Freierman  
Mary Tittmann

*Cambridge United for Education (CUE) is an independent, citywide organization dedicated to promoting excellence in education in the Cambridge Public Schools.*

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February 6, 1998

Joint Committee on Education  
State House  
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Education Committee Member:

We are writing on behalf of the board members of Cambridge United for Education (CUE), who join the Cambridge School Committee, the *One Voice for Children Coalition*, and other members of our community in supporting amendments to House bill 5220. CUE, an independent advocacy organization in Cambridge, promotes excellent education for all students in our city's public schools. We are concerned that if the original version of House bill 5220 is allowed to stand, many students needing special services might fall through the cracks.

We fear that the amendments to Chapter 766 included in this bill will jeopardize the education of special needs children throughout Massachusetts. In particular, we believe that there is inadequate understanding of the educational impact of lowering the standard to "free and appropriate public education." Under the current standard of "maximum feasible benefit," children who are mainstreamed and children with special placement will receive the support they need to succeed. Their success benefits all children in our schools, and their participation enriches the educational and social experience for themselves and their classmates. Thus, we support Representative Alice Wolf's amendment to House bill 5220, which would ask for a yearlong study of the impacts of changing the standards by which students in our state receive special education.

We are also concerned that the proposed limits to funding for second evaluations will reduce accessibility to services by poorer members of our community. Under this provision, only those families with financial means will be able to receive another evaluation for their child(ren). This could create a two-tiered system of public education. For this reason, we support the adoption of a sliding fee scale option for families who opt for a second evaluation.

Finally, we believe that House bill 5220 fails to address the current inadequacies in state funding for special education. The obligation of local school districts to pay the majority of special education expenses creates an atmosphere where families are pitted against each other for services. We strongly believe that every child in our school system must have, and is entitled to, access to an excellent education so that they can become active participants in our society.

Sincerely,



Richard Freierman



Mary Tittmann

*On Behalf of the Board of Cambridge United for Education:*

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Mary Tittmann

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February 6, 1998

Joint Committee on Education  
State House  
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Education Committee Member:

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Sincerely,



Richard Freierman



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c/o 39 R.C. Kelley Street  
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617-491-7390

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# City of Cambridge

32.

## IN CITY COUNCIL

February 9, 1998

### COUNCILLOR BORN

WHEREAS: Ms. Bhasin is a tenured teacher in the Cambridge Public Schools; and

WHEREAS: She has provided exceptional service in her role as teacher in a diverse, urban, multicultural classroom; and

WHEREAS: She has demonstrated exceptional ability in meeting the needs of each student in her charge; and

WHEREAS: She is recognized as a mentor, teacher and supervisor to teachers-in-training so that they can better understand how to meet the needs of children in similar classrooms; and

WHEREAS: She has served as an advisor to the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards in the development of early childhood teaching standards; and

WHEREAS: She has presented at a variety of conferences and educational forums nationwide; and

WHEREAS: Ms. Bhasin is sought after to become involved in nationally recognized innovative programs in education such as Harvard University's Project Zero; and

WHEREAS: Ms. Bhasin has made additional contributions to the Cambridge School Community by serving as chair of the Professional Development Committee, Curriculum Committee, and co-chair of the Committee of Race, Class and Culture; and

WHEREAS: In light of the need to reach the target number of minority teachers for the benefit of all Cambridge students and the difficulty we have had doing so despite active recruitment; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That this City Council go on record in support of Ms. Bhasin's application now on appeal at the INS in Vermont to obtain her green card; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to Ms. Bhasin on behalf of the entire City Council.

M. Duchay Consent Order #32 *Truitt/Hills*  
Davis *Reilly* *McCalluccio* *Russell* *Sullivan* *Tomay*  
Councillor Born: Support for Ms. Bhasin's  
application to obtain her green card.

S-80

In City Council February 9, 1998

Adopted as  
Amended

65