

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1782**

---

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Kimberly N. Ferguson***

*To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:*

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to regional stabilization funds.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Kimberly N. Ferguson</i>	<i>1st Worcester</i>
<i>Timothy R. Whelan</i>	<i>1st Barnstable</i>
<i>William L. Crocker, Jr.</i>	<i>2nd Barnstable</i>
<i>Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr.</i>	<i>12th Hampden</i>
<i>Shawn Dooley</i>	<i>9th Norfolk</i>
<i>Dean A. Tran</i>	<i>Worcester and Middlesex</i>
<i>Steven S. Howitt</i>	<i>4th Bristol</i>
<i>Josh S. Cutler</i>	<i>6th Plymouth</i>
<i>Donald F. Humason, Jr.</i>	<i>Second Hampden and Hampshire</i>
<i>Carolyn C. Dykema</i>	<i>8th Middlesex</i>
<i>Todd M. Smola</i>	<i>1st Hampden</i>
<i>F. Jay Barrows</i>	<i>1st Bristol</i>
<i>Jennifer E. Benson</i>	<i>37th Middlesex</i>
<i>Hannah Kane</i>	<i>11th Worcester</i>
<i>Susannah M. Whipps</i>	<i>2nd Franklin</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1782**

By Mrs. Ferguson of Holden, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1782) of Kimberly N. Ferguson and others relative to regional stabilization funds. Municipalities and Regional Government.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 1085 OF 2017-2018.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court  
(2019-2020)**  
\_\_\_\_\_

An Act relative to regional stabilization funds.

*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. Said chapter 71 is hereby further amended by striking out section 16G1/2,  
2 as appearing in the 2016 Official Edition, and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

3 Section 16G1/2. A regional school district may, upon a majority vote of all the members  
4 of the regional district school committee and, with the approval of a majority of the local  
5 appropriating authorities of the member municipalities, establish a stabilization fund and may, in  
6 any year, include in its annual budget for deposit in the stabilization fund an amount not  
7 exceeding five per cent of the aggregate amount apportioned to the member municipalities for  
8 the preceding fiscal year or such larger amount as may be approved by the director of accounts.  
9 The regional school district shall notify the member towns that said stabilization account has  
10 been established. Each regional school district member town will have 60 days to consider the

11 establishment of the stabilization fund. In the event that a member town fails to take action  
12 within 60days, that member town shall be deemed to have approved the establishment of said  
13 stabilization fund. The aggregate amount in the fund at any time shall not exceed five per cent of  
14 the combined equalized valuations of the member municipalities. Any interest shall be added to  
15 and become a part of the fund. The annual report submitted to the member municipalities  
16 pursuant to clause (k) of section sixteen shall include a statement of the balance in the  
17 stabilization fund and all additions to and withdrawals from the fund during the period covered  
18 by such report.

19           The treasurer of the regional school district shall be the custodian of such fund and may  
20 deposit or invest the fund in such deposits or investments as are legal for the deposit or  
21 investment of revenue funds of the district or in such securities as are legal for the investment of  
22 funds of savings banks under the laws of the commonwealth.

23           The stabilization fund may be appropriated by vote of two-thirds of all of the members of  
24 the regional district school committee for any purpose for which regional school districts may  
25 borrow money or for such other district purpose as the director of accounts may approve.

26           This section shall also apply to any regional school district established under the  
27 provisions of a special law.