

HOUSE No. 03103

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Peter V. Kocot

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 passage of the accompanying bill:

An act relative to reforming municipal aid formulas.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Peter V. Kocot

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

1st Hampshire

HOUSE No. 03103

By Mr. Kocot of Northampton, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3103) of Peter V. Kocot for the establishment of a special working group (including members of the General Court) to investigate and make recommendations relative to reforming municipal aid formulas. Ways and Means (Joint).

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Eleven

An act relative to reforming municipal aid formulas.

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. The House and Senate committees on ways and means, The House and
2 Senate committees on post audit and oversight, the joint committee on education and the joint
3 committee on revenue shall convene a working group to evaluate the recommendations of the
4 report entitled, “Reforming Municipal Aid in Massachusetts: The Case For a Gap-Based
5 Formula”, authored by Bo Zhao and David Coyne, released by the New England Public Policy
6 Center at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston.

7 SECTION 2. The members of the municipal aid working group shall be selected by the
8 Speaker of the House and the Senate President, in consultation with the chairs of each
9 participating committee. Said working group shall conduct meetings, convene hearings, hear
10 testimony and report to the clerks of both branches and the members of the General Court no
11 later than March 1, 2012, on the merits of the municipal aid funding approach reviewed in said

- 12 report, and the proposed funding changes for each community and school district after
- 13 implementation of the gap-based funding plan.