

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3933**

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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INITIATIVE PETITION OF MARVEN-RHODE HYPOLITE AND  
OTHERS.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY.  
BOSTON, JANUARY 6, 2016.

Steven T. James  
*Clerk of the House of Representatives*  
State House  
Boston, Massachusetts 02133

Sir: - I herewith transmit to you, in accordance with the requirements of Article XLVIII of the Amendments to the Constitution, "An Amendment to the Constitution to Provide Resources for Education and Transportation through an additional tax on incomes in excess of One Million Dollars," signed by ten qualified voters and filed with this department on or before December 2, 2015, together with additional signatures of qualified voters in the number of 92,617, being a sufficient number to comply with the Provisions of said Article.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN,  
*Secretary of the Commonwealth.*

AN INITIATIVE PETITION.

Pursuant to Article XLVIII of the Amendments to the Constitution of the Commonwealth, as amended, the undersigned qualified voters of the Commonwealth, ten in number at least, hereby petition for the enactment into law of the following measure:

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

\_\_\_\_\_  
**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court  
(2015-2016)**  
\_\_\_\_\_

An Initiative Petition for an Amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth to Provide Resources for Education and Transportation through an additional tax on Incomes in excess of One Million Dollars.

A majority of all the members elected to the Senate and House of Representatives, in joint session, hereby declares it to be expedient to alter the Constitution by the adoption of the following Article of Amendment, to the end that it may become a part of the Constitution [if similarly agreed to in a joint session of the next General Court and approved by the people at the state election next following]:

ARTICLE OF AMENDMENT.

1 Amendment Article XLIV of the Massachusetts Constitution is hereby amended by adding the  
2 following paragraph at the end thereof:

3 To provide the resources for quality public education and affordable public colleges and  
4 universities, and for the repair and maintenance of roads, bridges and public transportation, all  
5 revenues received in accordance with this paragraph shall be expended, subject to appropriation,  
6 only for these purposes. In addition to the taxes on income otherwise authorized under this  
7 Article, there shall be an additional tax of 4 percent on that portion of annual taxable income in  
8 excess of \$1,000,000 (one million dollars) reported on any return related to those taxes. To  
9 ensure that this additional tax continues to apply only to the commonwealth's highest income

10 residents, this \$1,000,000 (one million dollar) income level shall be adjusted annually to reflect  
11 any increases in the cost of living by the same method used for federal income tax brackets. This  
12 paragraph shall apply to all tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2019.

FIRST TEN SIGNERS

<u>NAME</u>	<u>RESIDENCE</u>	<u>CITY OR TOWN</u>
Marven-Rhode Hyppolite	7 Liberty Square	Lynn
Mary Ann Stewart	24 Rawson Avenue	Lexington
Rebecca A. Cusick	1528 Highland Avenue	Fall River
Arnold Hiatt	220 Boylston Street, #9008	Boston
Barbara Ann Mann	7 Reynolds Road	Peabody
Sigute Meilus	71 Chancery Street	New Bedford
Deborah L. Frontierro	216 Washington Street	Gloucester
Mary Clare Higgins	106 Laurel Park	Northampton
Jose A. Encarnacion	7 Lucian Street	Worcester
Kirsis Rafaela Nina	418 Columbia Road, #9	Boston

CERTIFICATE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL.

September 2, 2015.

Honorable William Francis Galvin  
*Secretary of the Commonwealth*  
One Ashburton Place, Room 1705  
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

RE: Initiative Petition No. 15-17: An Initiative Petition for an Amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth to Provide Resources for Education and Transportation through an additional tax on incomes in excess of One Million Dollars.

Dear Secretary Galvin:

I accordance with the provisions of Article 48 of the Amendments to the Massachusetts Constitution, I have reviewed the above-referenced initiative petition, which was submitted to me on or before the first Wednesday of August of this year.

I hereby certify that this measure is in proper form for submission to the people; that the measure is not, either affirmatively or negatively, substantially the same as any measure which has been qualified for submission or submitted to the people at either of the two preceding biennial state elections; and that it contains only subjects that are related or are mutually dependent and which are not excluded from the initiative process pursuant to Article 48, the Initiative, Part 2, Section 2.

In accordance with Article 48, I enclose a fair, concise summary of the measure.

Sincerely,

MAURA HEALEY,  
*Attorney General.*

## Summary of 15-17.

This proposed constitutional amendment would establish an additional 4% state income tax on that portion of annual taxable income in excess of \$1 million. This income level would be adjusted annually to reflect increases in the cost of living by the same method used for federal income-tax brackets. Revenues from this tax would be used, subject to appropriation by the state Legislature, only for public education, public colleges and universities, the repair and maintenance of roads, bridges, and public transportation. The proposed amendment would apply to tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2019.