

SENATE No. 289

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Richard R. Tisei

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 establishing a Chapter 70 equalization fund.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Richard R. Tisei	Middlesex and Essex
Bruce E. Tarr	First Essex and Middlesex
Michael R. Knapik	Second Hampden and Hampshire
Robert L. Hedlund	Plymouth and Norfolk
Scott P. Brown	Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex
Jason Lewis	31st Middlesex

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. S00379 OF 2007-2008.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT RELATIVE TO ESTABLISHING A CHAPTER 70 EQUALIZATION FUND.

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. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, there is hereby
2 established a Chapter 70 Equalization Fund, to meet the deficiencies in the base Chapter 70 aid
3 that a community received at the inception of the Education Reform Act of 1993 as calculated
4 pursuant to the communities which receive less than 15 per cent of their foundation budget
5 through Chapter 70 for such municipalities; provided, that a municipality seeking funds
6 hereunder shall apply for money through the fund to the Department of Education
7 (“Department”); provided further, that the Commissioner of the Department shall issue a finding
8 concerning such applications, after consulting with the school district regarding the merits of
9 such application; provided further, that assistance under this fund shall be available on a
10 recurring basis and funded in item 7061-0010 in the annual operating budget; provided further,
11 that funds distributed from this item to a municipality shall be considered base aid used in the
12 calculation of the minimum required local contribution for any fiscal year; provided further that
13 all money appropriated for this item shall be taken from the Local Aid Fund.

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