

HOUSE No. 412

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Bradley H. Jones, Jr.

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 holding Chapter 70 funding harmless.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Bradley H. Jones, Jr.</i>	<i>20th Middlesex</i>
<i>Bradford R. Hill</i>	<i>4th Essex</i>
<i>Elizabeth A. Poirier</i>	<i>14th Bristol</i>
<i>Susan Williams Gifford</i>	<i>2nd Plymouth</i>
<i>Todd M. Smola</i>	<i>1st Hampden</i>
<i>F. Jay Barrows</i>	<i>1st Bristol</i>
<i>Sheila C. Harrington</i>	<i>1st Middlesex</i>
<i>Shawn Dooley</i>	<i>9th Norfolk</i>
<i>Keiko M. Orrall</i>	<i>12th Bristol</i>
<i>Angelo L. D'Emilia</i>	<i>8th Plymouth</i>
<i>Steven S. Howitt</i>	<i>4th Bristol</i>
<i>Kimberly N. Ferguson</i>	<i>1st Worcester</i>
<i>Kevin J. Kuros</i>	<i>8th Worcester</i>
<i>Leah Cole</i>	<i>12th Essex</i>
<i>Timothy R. Whelan</i>	<i>1st Barnstable</i>
<i>Nicholas A. Boldyga</i>	<i>3rd Hampden</i>
<i>Donald R. Berthiaume, Jr.</i>	<i>5th Worcester</i>
<i>David T. Vieira</i>	<i>3rd Barnstable</i>

HOUSE No. 412

By Mr. Jones of North Reading, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 412) of Bradley H. Jones, Jr. and others for legislation to prohibit reductions of net school spending below the foundation budget amount. Education.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 433 OF 2013-2014.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to holding Chapter 70 funding harmless.

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. Section 2 of chapter 70 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2012
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting, in line 35, at the end thereof the definition of
3 “Base aid”, the following clause:-

4 ; provided, however, that nothing in the definition of “Base aid” shall be construed to
5 mean that the amount of base aid, in any fiscal year, shall not drop below the amount of base aid
6 of the previous fiscal year.

7 SECTION 2. Section 2 of said chapter 70 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby
8 further amended by striking out, in line 415 to 417, the words “; provided, however, that in no

9 case shall said reduction result in a reduction of net school spending to an amount less than the
10 foundation budget amount”

11 SECTION 3. Section 2 of said chapter 70 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby
12 further amended by striking out, in line 496 to 501, the words “; and provided further; that for
13 any municipality in which net school spending is greater than the foundation budget, in no case
14 shall the sum of the preliminary local contribution and the base aid and the minimum aide result
15 in a reduction of net school spending to an amount less than the foundation budget amount”

16 SECTION 4. Section 3 of said chapter 70, as so appearing, is hereby amended by adding,
17 after the second paragraph, the following new sentence:-

18 No regulation shall be adopted by the board of education that would prohibit a district’s
19 foundation budget funding, in any fiscal year, from dropping below the amount of said district’s
20 foundation budget funding of the previous fiscal year.

21 SECTION 5. Section 10 of said chapter 70, as so appearing, is hereby amended by
22 inserting, in line 5, after the word “chapter”, the following clause:-

23 ; provided, however, that the amount of aid paid to each district shall accurately reflect
24 the foundation enrollment of the district in any fiscal year, and not be subject to a minimum
25 funding amount reflective of the previous fiscal year.