

SENATE No. 00189

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Katherine M. Clark

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:
<i>Katherine M. Clark</i>	<i>Middlesex and Essex</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>
<i>James J. Dwyer</i>	<i>30th Middlesex</i>
<i>Paul Brodeur</i>	<i>32nd Middlesex</i>
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>31st Middlesex</i>
<i>Lori A. Ehrlich</i>	<i>8th Essex</i>

SENATE No. 00189

By Ms. Clark, petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 189) of Dwyer, Eldridge, Lewis and other members of the General Court for legislation to establish a Chapter 70 equalization fund [Joint Committee on Education].

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE
□ SENATE
□ , NO. 289 OF 2009-2010.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Eleven

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 17.5 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.