

HOUSE No. 935

By Ms. Gardner of Holliston, petition of Barbara Gardner and another relative to the budget process of regional school districts. Education, Arts and Humanities.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Ninety-One.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE REGIONAL SCHOOL BUDGET PROCESS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 The sixth paragraph of Chapter 71, Section 16B of the General
2 Laws as appearing in the 1986 Official Edition shall be amended
3 by the addition, at the end thereof, of the following language: —
4 “If, after resubmission of the budget, no agreement is reached
5 as to a budget for the regional school district, the district shall
6 notify the Department of Education of a lack of a budget and
7 the commissioner, or his designee, shall, on or before July first,
8 certify an amount sufficient for the operation of the district and
9 order the appropriation thereof in an amount not less than 1/12
10 of the total budget approved by the region in the most recent fiscal
11 year. Similar sums shall be certified and appropriated for each
12 successive month to insure the continued provision of services by
13 the district until such time as a budget is adopted and approved
14 by the regional committee and member towns in the manner
15 otherwise provided herein. In the event a budget is not adopted
16 by December first in any year, the department shall assume
17 operation of the district and funds for same shall be deducted from
18 local aid distributed to member towns.”

