

SENATE No. 313

By Mr. Tarr, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 313) of Bruce E. Tarr, Robert L. Hedlund and Anthony J. Verga for legislation to evaluate the fiscal impact of education reform. Education, Arts and Humanities.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT TO EVALUATE THE FISCAL IMPACT OF EDUCATION REFORM.

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 Secretary of Administration and Finance, together with the
2 Department of Revenue and the Department of Education, are
3 hereby authorized and directed to conduct a study of the financial
4 impact of the Education Reform Act, so-called, of 1993, on the
5 provision of non-educational services by the municipalities of the
6 Commonwealth.

7 Such study shall include, but not be limited to an investigation
8 of at least 25 communities from geographically diverse locations
9 in the Commonwealth and shall document;

10 (1) The extent to which revenue has been shifted to educational
11 accounts from all other municipal accounts.

12 (2) Any local tax increases necessitated by local contribution
13 requirements of Chapter 71 of the Massachusetts General Laws.

14 (3) Any and all reductions in non-educational municipal serv-
15 ices attributable to funding and budgetary changes necessitated by
16 said Chapter 71.

17 In addition, said study shall include recommendations designed
18 to assist cities and towns in the funding and balancing of munic-
19 ipal budgets, including structural changes to the means which the
20 Commonwealth shares revenues with cities and towns.

