

By Mr. Tisei, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 330) of Richard R. Tisei, Brian P. Lees, Bruce E. Tarr and other members of the General Court for legislation to establish a Chapter 70 equalization fund. Education, Arts and Humanities.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and One.

AN ACT 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 Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary,
2 there is hereby established a Chapter 70 Equalization Fund, to
3 meet the deficiencies in the base Chapter 70 aid that a community
4 received at the inception of the Education Reform Act of 1993 as
5 calculated pursuant to the Communities which receive less
6 than 15% of their foundation budget through Chapter 70 for such
7 municipalities; provided, that a municipality seeking funds here-
8 under shall apply for money through the fund to the Department
9 of Education ("Department"); provided further, that the Commis-
10 sioner of the Department shall issue a finding concerning such
11 applications, after consulting with the school district regarding the
12 merits of such application; provided further, that assistance under
13 this fund shall be available on a recurring basis and funded in item
14 7061-0010 in the annual operating budget; provided further, that
15 funds distributed from this item to a municipality shall be consid-
16 ered base aid used in the calculation of the minimum required
17 local contribution for any fiscal year; provided further that all
18 money appropriated for this item shall be taken from the Local
19 Aid Fund.

