HOUSE . . . . . . No. 5495

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts



## THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

STATE HOUSE • BOSTON 02133 (617) 727-3600

ARGEO PAUL CELLUCCI GOVERNOR

JANE SWIFT

November 22, 2000

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives:

Pursuant to the provisions of Article II, Section 8, Paragraph 1, Clause (2) of the Amendments to the Constitution, as amended by Article LXXXIX, we are filing for your consideration the attached legislation entitled, "An Act Validating A Special Town Election Held in the Town of Phillipston."

Senator Brewer, Representative Bunker, and the Board of Selectmen and Town Clerk of Phillipston have asked that this legislation be filed on behalf of the Town. The bill will validate the results of a special election held in Phillipston, notwithstanding that the initial warrant published in connection with that election contained a typographical error in the amount of a Proposition 2½ override question subsequently approved at the election.

According to the Town, because of an inadvertent typographical error the election warrant incorrectly described the pending Proposition 2½ ballot question as requesting approval of an increased assessment of in the amount of \$153,813 for purposes of the Narragansett Regional School operating budget. The correct amount of the proposed override was \$156,813. Although a correction ultimately was made, the corrected warrant was posted for only 2 days. Although the election warrant was defective in this respect, the Town reports the wording that appeared on the ballot at October 25, 2000 election was correct.

We appreciate your consideration of this legislation.

Respectfully submitted,

Argeo Paul Cellucci

Governor

Jane Swift Lieutenant Governor

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand.

AN ACT VALIDATING A SPECIAL TOWN ELECTION HELD IN THE TOWN OF PHILLIPSTON.

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 the provisions of any general or
- 2 special law to the contrary, all acts and proceedings taken by the
- 3 town of Phillipston at the special town election held on October 25,
- 4 2000 and all actions taken pursuant thereto are hereby validated,
- 5 ratified and confirmed, notwithstanding any defect or omission in
- 6 the language or posting of the warrant for said election relative to
- 7 the Narragansett Regional School District Operating Budget for the
- 8 fiscal year beginning July 1, 2000.
- 1 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.