

HOUSE No. 1645

By Ms. Resor of Acton, petition of Pamela P. Resor for legislation to further define the funding for educational reform in the Commonwealth. Education, Arts and Humanities.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT TO FURTHER DEFINE THE FUNDING 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 Chapter 70 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding
2 the following: —

1 SECTION 1. In fiscal year 1994, a regional school district
2 school committee may at its discretion vote not to raise approved
3 assessments to member cities and towns if the assessments
4 together with anticipated state aid and other available revenue
5 provide a budget that equals or exceeds the total of the state
6 determined net school spending plus other expenses defined by
7 the school committee.

1 SECTION 2 In fiscal year 1995 and thereafter, a regional
2 school district school committee may reduce its annual assessment
3 to member cities and towns for other expenses and then, to the
4 extent possible, for the state-determined minimum contribu-
5 tion if:

6 (a) The School Committee identifies available supporting
7 revenue beyond assessments and state aid and

8 (b) The total budget then supported by all revenue equals or
9 exceeds the total of the state-determined net school spending plus
10 other (non-foundation) expenses defined by the school committee.

1 SECTION 3. Majority votes will prevail on these decisions by
2 the school committee. In fiscal year 1995 and thereafter, any
3 reduction in assessment will be calculated in the manner defined
4 by the regional agreement for apportioning costs to member
5 communities.