

SENATE . . . . . No. 839

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By Mr. D'Amico, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 839) of Paul H. Gordon and Gerard D'Amico for legislation relative to the maintenance of local school expenditures. Education.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty-five.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE MAINTENANCE OF LOCAL SCHOOL EXPENDITURES.

*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 in any city or town in which the provisions of paragraph (d)  
3 of section twenty-one (C) of chapter fifty-nine as amended by  
4 chapter seven hundred and eighty-two of the acts of nineteen  
5 hundred and eighty-one apply, when it is deemed necessary  
6 to reduce appropriations for the support of the local public  
7 school district(s) below the amount appropriated for such pur-  
8 poses during the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, nineteen  
9 hundred and eighty-five, such reduction shall not exceed the  
10 amount obtained by multiplying the following two variables.  
11 The first variable shall be the percentage which appropria-  
12 tions for the support of the local public school district(s)  
13 represented of total local appropriations in the city or town  
14 during the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, nineteen hundred  
15 and eighty-five, provided, however, that a local legislative  
16 body may, by a two-thirds vote, add up to but not more than  
17 ten percentage points to said percentage. The second variable  
18 shall be the amount by which total taxes assessed in the city  
19 or town must be reduced in accordance with paragraph (d)  
20 of section twenty-one (C) of chapter fifty-nine as amended in  
21 the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, nineteen hundred and  
22 eighty-five.

23 In any city or town in which the provisions of said paragraph  
24 (d) of section twenty-one of chapter fifty-nine do not apply,

25 the percentage of total local appropriations which shall be for  
26 support of the local public school district(s) during the fiscal  
27 year ending nineteen hundred and eighty-six shall not be less  
28 than the percentage which appropriations for the support of  
29 the local public school district(s) were of total appropriations  
30 in the city or town during the fiscal year ending June thirtieth,  
31 nineteen hundred and eighty-five; provided, however, that the  
32 local legislative body may, by a two-thirds vote, subtract up  
33 to but not more than ten percentage points from said percent-  
34 age which appropriations for support of the local public school  
35 district(s) shall represent of total local appropriations.