

**SENATE . . . . . No.**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

**Richard R. Tisei**

*To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:*

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to establishing a Chapter 70 equalization fund.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Richard R. Tisei

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Middlesex and Essex

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE SENATE, NO. S00379 OF 2007-2008.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the Year Two Thousand and Nine**

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**AN ACT RELATIVE TO 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           SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, there is hereby  
2 established a Chapter 70 Equalization Fund, to meet the deficiencies in the base Chapter 70 aid  
3 that a community received at the inception of the Education Reform Act of 1993 as calculated  
4 pursuant to the communities which receive less than 15 per cent of their foundation budget  
5 through Chapter 70 for such municipalities; provided, that a municipality seeking funds  
6 hereunder shall apply for money through the fund to the Department of Education  
7 (“Department”); provided further, that the Commissioner of the Department shall issue a finding  
8 concerning such applications, after consulting with the school district regarding the merits of  
9 such application; provided further, that assistance under this fund shall be available on a  
10 recurring basis and funded in item 7061-0010 in the annual operating budget; provided further,  
11 that funds distributed from this item to a municipality shall be considered base aid used in the  
12 calculation of the minimum required local contribution for any fiscal year; provided further that  
13 all money appropriated for this item shall be taken from the Local Aid Fund.