HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 2208 FILED ON: 1/15/2015

HOUSE . . . . . No. 376

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Sean Garballey

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 adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act concerning unfunded education mandates.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Sean Garballey	*23rd Middlesex*
Denise Provost	*27th Middlesex*
Marjorie C. Decker	*25th Middlesex*
David M. Nangle	*17th Middlesex*
James J. Dwyer	*30th Middlesex*
Leonard Mirra	*2nd Essex*
John C. Velis	*4th Hampden*
Keiko M. Orrall	*12th Bristol*
Mary S. Keefe	*15th Worcester*
Ryan C. Fattman	*Worcester and Norfolk*
James Arciero	*2nd Middlesex*
Thomas M. Stanley	*9th Middlesex*
Brian M. Ashe	*2nd Hampden*
Robert L. Hedlund	*Plymouth and Norfolk*
Michael O. Moore	*Second Worcester*

HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 2208 FILED ON: 1/15/2015

HOUSE . . . . . No. 376

By Mr. Garballey of Arlington, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 376) of Sean Garballey and others for legislation to impose a moratorium on all new mandated education programs. Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court
(2015-2016)

An Act concerning unfunded education mandates.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

SECTION 1. Add to the end of section 37 of chapter 71 of the General Laws the following:

Notwithstanding the foregoing or any general or special law or regulation to the contrary, it shall be the policy of the General Court to impose a moratorium on all new mandated education programs, requirements or expenses, including but not limited to, new testing requirements that negatively impact the time available for classroom instruction from the effective date of this act for a period of eighteen months or until December 31, 2016, whichever is later.

SECTION 2. There shall be an educational mandate task force to review existing state mandates placed on public schools and districts in the Commonwealth. The task force shall consist of 11 members: the house and senate chairs of the joint committee on education, or their designees, who shall serve as the co-chairs of the task force; a member of the general court

13 appointed by the senate minority leader; a member of the general court appointed by the house
14 minority leader; the commissioner of elementary and secondary education, or a designee; and 6
15 persons to be appointed by the secretary of education, 1 of whom shall be selected from a list of
16 3 persons nominated by the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents, 1 of whom
17 shall be selected from a list of 3 persons nominated by the Massachusetts Association of School
18 Committees, 1 of whom shall be selected from a list of 3 persons nominated by the
19 Massachusetts Association of School Business Officials, 1 of whom shall be selected from a list
20 of 3 persons nominated by the Massachusetts Secondary School Administrators' Association, 1
21 of whom shall be selected from a list of 3 persons nominated by the Massachusetts Elementary
22 School Principals' Association, and 1 of whom shall be selected from a list of 3 persons
23 nominated by the Massachusetts Administrators of Special Education.

24 The task force shall: (i) identify and review the state laws, regulations, and
25 administrative directives that prescribe requirements for school districts, including those that
26 require school districts to prepare and submit reports and data to the department of elementary
27 and secondary education (ii) develop recommendations to streamline, consolidate, or eliminate
28 such mandates or reporting requirements that are not fully funded.

29 The first meeting of the task force shall take place within 60 days of the effective
30 date of this act. The task force shall file a report containing its findings and recommendations,
31 including legislative recommendations, if any, with the clerks of the house and senate not later
32 than12 months following the first meeting of the task force. Prior to issuing its recommendations,
33 the task force shall conduct at least one public hearing to receive testimony from members of the
34 public.