

SENATE No. 289

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Nine

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.