

HOUSE No. 516

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Martha M. Walz

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 relative to equitable school reimbursement funds.

PETITION OF:

| NAME: | DISTRICT/ADDRESS: | DATE ADDED: |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| <i>Martha M. Walz</i> | <i>8th Suffolk</i> | <i>1/7/2013</i> |
| <i>Kay Khan</i> | <i>11th Middlesex</i> | |
| <i>Patricia D. Jehlen</i> | <i>Second Middlesex</i> | |
| <i>Jennifer E. Benson</i> | <i>37th Middlesex</i> | |

HOUSE No. 516

By Ms. Walz of Boston, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 516) of Martha M. Walz and others relative to equitable school reimbursement funds. Education.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 1087 OF 2011-2012.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen
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An Act relative to equitable school reimbursement funds.

Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to provide additional revenues for school districts, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.

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 section 72 of chapter 44 of the General Laws or any other general or
2 special law to the contrary, any funds received by a city, town or regional school district pursuant
3 to said section 72 shall be considered unrestricted revenue of the city, town or regional school
4 district. Commencing in fiscal year 2014, and every year thereafter, a city or town shall deposit
5 in a separate account for expenditures by the school committee not less than 50 per cent of those
6 funds received. A school committee may receive a percentage of those funds that is larger than
7 50 per cent if the committee negotiates an agreement with the executive body of the city or town
8 to receive a larger percentage. A school committee may make expenditures from the separate
9 account for any lawful educational purpose without further appropriation. Any expenditure from
10 this account shall not be considered net school spending. The receipt of these funds by the
11 school committee from the municipality shall not affect the calculation of the minimum required
12 local contribution and state school aid as defined in section 2 of chapter 70 of the General Laws.