SENATE DOCKET, NO. 1419 FILED ON: 1/18/2013

SENATE . . . . . No. 207

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Sonia Chang-Diaz

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 reviving the Foundation Budget Review Commission.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Sonia Chang-Diaz	*Second Suffolk*
Katherine M. Clark	*Fifth Middlesex*
Barry R. Finegold	*Second Essex and Middlesex*
Danielle W. Gregoire	*4th Middlesex*
Sal N. DiDomenico	*Middlesex and Suffolk*
Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr.	*12th Hampden*
William N. Brownsberger	*Second Suffolk and Middlesex*
Michael O. Moore	*Second Worcester*
Kay Khan	*11th Middlesex*
Cheryl A. Coakley-Rivera	*10th Hampden*
Richard T. Moore	*Worcester and Norfolk*
Benjamin B. Downing	*Berkshire, Hampshire, Franklin and Hampden*
Daniel A. Wolf	*Cape and Islands*
Mary S. Keefe	*15th Worcester*
Kenneth J. Donnelly	*Fourth Middlesex*
Denise Andrews	*2nd Franklin*
Richard J. Ross	*Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex*

Patricia D. Jehlen	*Second Middlesex*
Sean Garballey	*23rd Middlesex*
John Hart, Jr.	*First Suffolk*
Gale D. Candaras	*First Hampden and Hampshire*
Michael R. Knapik	*Second Hampden and Hampshire*
James B. Eldridge	*Middlesex and Worcester*
Linda Dorcena Forry	*12th Suffolk*
Jennifer E. Benson	*37th Middlesex*
Marjorie C. Decker	*25th Middlesex*
James J. O'Day	*14th Worcester*
Timothy R. Madden	*Barnstable, Dukes and Nantucket*
James E. Timilty	*Bristol and Norfolk*
Karen E. Spilka	*Second Middlesex and Norfolk*
Brian M. Ashe	*2nd Hampden*
John F. Keenan	*Norfolk and Plymouth*
Eileen M. Donoghue	*First Middlesex*
Cynthia S. Creem	*First Middlesex and Norfolk*
Thomas P. Kennedy	*Second Plymouth and Bristol*
Bruce E. Tarr	*First Essex and Middlesex*

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By Ms. Chang-Diaz, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 207) of Sonia Chang-Diaz, Katherine M. Clark, Barry R. Finegold, Danielle W. Gregoire and other members of the General Court for legislation to revive the Foundation Budget Review Commission. Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen

An Act reviving the Foundation Budget Review Commission.

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. Chapter 70 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2010 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out section 4, as so appearing, and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

Section 4. There shall be a foundation budget review commission to review the way in which foundation budgets are calculated and to make recommendations to the general court regarding such changes as may be appropriate. In conducting such review, the commission shall seek to determine the educational programs and services necessary to achieve the commonwealth's educational goals, including those necessary to fully implement state curriculum standards and to prepare students to achieve passing scores on the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System examinations. The review shall include, but not be limited to: class size; special education programs, including programs for English language learners; preschool programs for all 3 and 4 year-olds and full-day kindergarten; additional resources necessary to assure educational opportunity for low-income students; salaries necessary to attract and retain high quality professionals; extracurricular programs; remedial programs for students at risk of failing to satisfy graduation requirements; books and other curriculum materials; equipment for science lab programs; and technology. In addition, the commission shall seek to determine how resources can be used in the most effective manner. In carrying out the review, the commission shall examine relevant data and any reports on education funding produced within the 10 years preceding the issuance of a commission report. The commission shall include the house and senate chairs of the joint committee on education, who shall serve as co-chairs, the secretary of education, the commissioner of elementary and secondary education, the speaker of the house of representatives or a designee, the president of the senate or a designee, the minority

23 leader of the house of representatives or a designee, the minority leader of the senate or a
24 designee, the governor or a designee, the chair of the house committee on ways and means or a
25 designee, the chair of the senate committee on ways and means or a designee and 1 member to
26 be appointed by each of the following organizations: the Massachusetts Municipal Association,
27 the Massachusetts Business Alliance for Education, the Massachusetts Association of School
28 Committees, the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents, the Massachusetts
29 Teachers Association, the American Federation of Teachers Massachusetts, the Massachusetts
30 Budget and Policy Center, the League of Women Voters of Massachusetts, the Massachusetts
31 Parent Teacher Association, Stand for Children, the Massachusetts Association of Vocational
32 Administrators and the Massachusetts Association of Regional Schools. Members shall receive
33 no compensation for their services but may receive reimbursement for the reasonable expenses
34 incurred in carrying out their responsibilities as members of the commission. The department
35 shall furnish reasonable staff and other support for the work of the commission.

36 Prior to issuing its recommendations, the commission shall conduct not fewer than four
37 hearings to receive testimony from members of the public. The hearings shall be held in
38 locations that provide opportunities for residents from all geographic regions of the
39 commonwealth to testify.

40 It shall not constitute a violation of chapter 268A for a person employed by a school
41 district to serve on the commission or to participate in commission deliberations that may have a
42 financial impact on the district employing that person or on the rate at which that person may be
43 compensated. The commission may establish procedures to ensure that no such person
44 participates in commission deliberations that may directly affect the school districts employing
45 those persons or that may directly affect the rate at which those persons are compensated.

46 The commission's recommendations, together with any proposed legislation, shall be
47 filed every four years with the clerks of the senate and house of representatives who shall refer
48 such recommendations to the appropriate committee of the general court. Within 30 days after
49 such filing, the committee shall hold a public hearing on the recommendations.

50 SECTION 2. The foundation budget review commission established in section 4 of
51 chapter 70 of the General Laws shall file its initial recommendations with the clerks of the senate
52 and house of representatives under said section 4 of said chapter 70 not later than December 31,
53 2013; provided, however, that the commission may issue an initial interim report before that
54 date.