

**SENATE . . . . . No. 211**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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PRESENTED BY:

***Katherine M. Clark***

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*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 establishing a Chapter 70 equalization fund.

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PETITION OF:

NAME:

*Katherine M. Clark*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*Fifth Middlesex*

**SENATE . . . . . No. 211**

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By Ms. Clark, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 211) of Katherine M. Clark for legislation to establish a Chapter 70 equalization fund. Education.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE SENATE, NO. 189 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 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 17.5 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.