

HOUSE No. 2040

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Bradford R. Hill

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 implementing the recommendations of the foundation budget review commission.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Bradford R. Hill

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

4th Essex

HOUSE No. 2040

By Mr. Hill of Ipswich, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2040) of Bradford R. Hill relative to implementing the recommendations of the foundation budget review commission. Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
(2017-2018)**

An Act relative to implementing the recommendations of 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:

1 SECTION 1. Section 2 of chapter 70 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2014
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out the definitions of “Assumed in-school special
3 education enrollment” and “Assumed tuitioned-out special education enrollment”, and inserting
4 in place thereof the following definitions:-

5 “Assumed in-school special education enrollment”, 4 per cent of total foundation
6 enrollment in a district not counting vocational or preschool enrollment, plus 5 per cent of
7 vocational enrollment.

8 “Assumed tuitioned-out special education enrollment”, 4 times the statewide foundation
9 budget per-pupil amount less the statewide foundation budget per-pupil amount plus out-of-
10 district special education cost rate; provided, that effective for state fiscal year 2017 such value
11 shall become the base rate and shall be increased by the positive difference by a percentage

12 amount equal to the percentage rise in the United States Consumer Price Index for January first
13 of that year over the level of said Index for January first of the previous year.

14 SECTION 2. Section 2 of said chapter 70, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking
15 out the definition of “Foundation benefits”, and inserting in place thereof the following
16 definition:-

17 “Foundation benefits”, the amount allotted within a district’s foundation budget for the
18 purchase of retired employee health insurance, employee benefits and other insurance in any
19 fiscal year. The foundation benefits shall be the sum of the following:

20 (a) \$4,320 multiplied by the wage adjustment factor multiplied by the sum of the
21 foundation teaching staff, the foundation support staff, the foundation assistants, the foundation
22 principals, the foundation clerical staff, the foundation health care staff, the foundation central
23 office professional staff and the foundation custodial staff; plus

24 (b) \$460 multiplied by the sum of the foundation teaching staff, the foundation support
25 staff, the foundation assistants, the foundation principals, the foundation clerical staff, the
26 foundation health care staff, the foundation central office professional staff and the foundation
27 custodial staff; plus

28 (c) \$230 multiplied by the foundation vocational staff; plus

29 (d) the fiscal year per capita cost of retired employee health insurance

30 SECTION 3. Section 2 of said chapter 70, as so appearing, is hereby amended by
31 inserting after the definition of “Foundation benefits” the following definition:-

32 “Employee health insurance”, the average group insurance commission rate adjusted by
33 any increase in such rate; provided, that the group insurance commission shall annually, on or
34 before June 30, provide the department of education with data necessary for the determination of
35 such rate or any increase thereof.

36 SECTION 4. Notwithstanding the provisions of any general or special law to the
37 contrary, the secretary of administration and finance and the house and senate committees on
38 ways and means shall jointly determine an implementation schedule to fulfill the
39 recommendations of the foundation budget review commission’s final report filed on November
40 2, 2015. The implementation schedule shall establish a foundation budget as defined in section 2
41 of said chapter 70 incorporating the provisions of sections 1, 2 and 3 of this act over a period of 7
42 fiscal years. Said schedule of implementation shall not exceed 7 fiscal years and shall in each
43 fiscal year set the appropriation required to fully fund the foundation budget incorporating the
44 aforementioned provisions of this act by fiscal year 2024 in equal increments for each fiscal year.
45 The schedule may be amended by agreement of the senate and house ways and means
46 committees in any of the 7 fiscal years to reflect changes in enrollment, inflation, student
47 populations, or other factors that would affect the remaining costs in the schedule; provided,
48 however, that the final year of the schedule shall not surpass fiscal year 2024, but the schedule
49 may be fully implemented prior to fiscal year 2024.