

SENATE No. 334

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Bruce E. Tarr

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 Learning Innovation for Tomorrow (LIFT) to fund the foundation budget review commission.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Bruce E. Tarr

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

First Essex and Middlesex

SENATE No. 334

By Mr. Tarr, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 334) of Bruce E. Tarr for legislation relative to Learning Innovation for Tomorrow (LIFT) to fund the foundation budget review commission. Education.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 325 OF 2017-2018.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court
(2019-2020)

An Act relative to Learning Innovation for Tomorrow (LIFT) to fund 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. Chapter 10 of the General Laws as appearing in the 2014 Official Edition is
2 hereby amended by inserting after section 35CCC the following section:-

3 Section_. There shall be established and set upon the books of the commonwealth a
4 separate fund to be known as the Learning Innovation for Tomorrow (LIFT) fund, whose
5 purpose shall be to finance the development and implementation of innovation in the public
6 education of students throughout the commonwealth, without regard or preference to any
7 particular geographic location or region of the commonwealth.

8 Amounts shall be credited to the fund pursuant to clause (i), (ii) and (iii) of this section,
9 provided that the fund may be supplemented through appropriation from the general fund or

10 other available sources including but not limited to any interest earned on monies in the fund;
11 any funds from private sources including, but not limited to, gifts, grants and donations received
12 by the commonwealth that are specifically designated to be credited to the fund, provided further
13 that expenditure from the fund shall be made pursuant to a specific line item created to distribute
14 funding by the Department of elementary, and secondary education.

15 Funds may be expended from the fund for the following purposes:

16 (1) To support the plan to fund the recommendations of the first year of the Foundation
17 Budget review commission as established under section 4 of chapter 70

18 In promulgating regulations to administer the fund, the department shall establish and
19 monitor measurable benchmarks for progress and accomplishment, and shall report annually to
20 the clerks of the house and senate, the house and senate committees on ways and means, the joint
21 committee on education, and the secretary of education not later than December 31 of each year
22 on the impacts of fund spending.

23 moves to further amendment by inserting after section __ the following new section:-

24 (i). Section 64 of Chapter 23k of the general laws as appearing in the 2014 official edition
25 is hereby amended by striking out from line 6-12 the following:-“provided, however that 35 per
26 cent of the funds received shall be appropriated for the purposes of higher education to
27 supplement, not offset, any reduction in the general appropriation act from the previous fiscal
28 year; and provided further, that any expenditures from the fund for K-12 education shall be used
29 to supplement, and not offset, any reduction in line item 7061-0008 of the general appropriation
30 act from the previous fiscal year’s general appropriation act” and inserting in place thereof the
31 following:-“provided, however, that 40 per cent of the funds received shall be appropriated for

32 the purposes of higher education and provided further, that 60 per cent of the funds received
33 shall be appropriated to the implementation of the first year of the foundation budget review
34 commission recommendations.

35 (ii). Section 10 of Chapter 152 of the Acts of 1997 are hereby amended by inserting in at
36 the end of sub clause (iii) in clause (C) the following:- (iv) Not less than twenty million plus fifty
37 per cent of surplus over required debt service to the implementation of the first year of the
38 foundation budget review commission recommendations.

39 (iii). Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, prior to transferring the
40 consolidated net surplus in the budgetary funds to the Commonwealth Stabilization Fund under
41 section 5C of chapter 29 of the General Laws, the comptroller shall dispose of the consolidated
42 net surplus in the budgetary funds as follows: (1) transfer 1/3 of the surplus, not to exceed
43 \$10,000,000, to the Massachusetts Community Preservation Trust Fund established in section 9
44 of chapter 44B of the General Laws; (ii) transfer 1/3 of the surplus, not to exceed \$10,000,000, to
45 the Massachusetts Life Sciences Investment Fund established in section 6 of the chapter 23I of
46 the General Laws; and (iii) transfer 1/3 of the surplus, not to exceed \$10,000,000 to the first year
47 of the foundation budget review commission as established by section 4 of chapter 70
48 recommendations.