

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**MINORITY REPORT**

**on the**

**INITIATIVE PETITION**

**of**

**MARVEN-RHODE HYPPOLITE AND OTHERS**

**for an**

**INITIATIVE AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION**

**TO PROVIDE RESOURCES FOR EDUCATION AND**

**TRANSPORTATION THROUGH AN ADDITIONAL TAX ON**

**INCOMES IN EXCESS OF ONE MILLION DOLLARS**

(see House, No. 3933)

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February 1, 2016

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# Joint Committee on Revenue

## H.3933 Minority Report

Our Constitution states: “Government is instituted for the common good; for the protection, safety, prosperity, and happiness of the people; and not for the profit, honor, or private interest of any one man, family, or class of men...”

In essence, we the people are created equal. We deserve a system of taxation reflecting this guiding principle. We reject creating a tiered income tax that penalizes hard work, entrepreneurship, and misleads voters on how higher tax revenue is spent.

We believe an income tax where every citizen pays the same rate (5%) is the fairest system of taxation.

We believe higher taxes harm an improving Massachusetts business climate, stifles job creation, and diminishes economic opportunity.

We believe spending tax revenue by referendum undermines representative government. Since this tax is “subject to appropriation,” elected officials --not the voters-- decide how these higher taxes are spent; resulting in no additional money for education or roads.

Our citizens deserve fiscal responsibility and fairness; this will not be achieved by burdening families with a tiered system of higher taxation.

Signed:

Sen. Ryan C. Fattman

Rep. Shawn Dooley

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