

Foundation Budget Review Commission Recommendations Resolution

Whereas, in 1993 the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court issued its decision in *McDuffy v. Secretary of the Executive Office of Education* (1993) stating that the “Massachusetts Constitution impose[s] an enforceable duty on the magistrates and Legislatures of this Commonwealth to provide education in the public schools for the children there enrolled, whether they be rich or poor and without regard to the fiscal capacity of the community or district in which such children live. It shall be declared also that the constitutional duty is not being currently fulfilled by the Commonwealth;” and

Whereas, the Massachusetts Foundation Budget Review Commission identified employee health insurance and special education as two areas where the Massachusetts Foundation Budget significantly understates the true cost of educating students in the Commonwealth and has failed to keep pace with rising costs; and

Whereas, this underfunding means the cost of providing a quality education has increasingly been supported by local communities, most often at the expense of other important operations; and

Whereas, investing in our students’ education today leads to higher incomes, and thus less investment in police, fire, prisons, health care, low income housing, and welfare in the future; and

Whereas, state and local economies are most effectively strengthened “by investing in education and increasing the number of well-educated workers;” and

Therefore, Be It Resolved that the City of Malden School Committee calls on the Massachusetts Legislature and the Governor of Massachusetts to fully fund and adopt the recommendations of the Foundation Budget Review Commission as soon as possible.