

Resolution In Support of the Fair Share Amendment

WHEREAS, the best way to help working families and build a stronger economy for us all is to make sure that we have quality public schools for our children, affordable public higher education, and a reliable transportation system; and

WHEREAS, students need a well-rounded education, founded on a rich and varied curriculum that includes science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM), world languages, music, art, and athletics; and

WHEREAS, major investments in public education are needed to help students recover academically, socially, and emotionally from the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, tuitions and fees at our public colleges are among the highest in the country, and forcing students to take on enormous debt to receive a degree; and

WHEREAS, new state revenue is necessary to ensure the promises of the Student Opportunity Act (SOA) are kept and to make public higher education affordable again; and

WHEREAS, Massachusetts needed new investments in our transportation and public education systems even before the COVID-19 pandemic, and now those investments are needed more than ever to lift our economy into an equitable and long-lasting recovery; and

WHEREAS, our Commonwealth's highest-income residents, who have seen their collective net worth skyrocket in recent years, pay a lower percentage of their income in state and local taxes than do the rest of us, and clearly have the ability to pay a little more for the investments we all need,

NOW THEREFORE; be it

RESOLVED, that the Somerville School Committee enthusiastically supports the proposed Fair Share Amendment that would create an additional tax of four percentage points on annual income above one million dollars and would dedicate the funds raised by this tax to quality public education, affordable public colleges and universities, and for the repair and maintenance of roads, bridges, and public transportation.

Voted: Unanimously

Date: May 9, 2022

By: Somerville School Committee