

Somerville School Committee Resolution in Support of the Constitutional Amendment to Invest in Transportation and Public Education with a Tax On Annual Income Above One Million Dollars

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 transportation system that lets people get to work and school; and

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

WHEREAS, from 2002-2013, annual K-12 funding from the state dropped by \$600 million; and

WHEREAS, compared to other states, Massachusetts ranks 33rd in the share of our state's economic resources dedicated to public education; and

WHEREAS, new revenue is necessary to improve our public schools, rebuild crumbling roads and bridges, make public higher education affordable, and invest in fast and reliable public transportation; and

WHEREAS, our highest-income residents, who have been the biggest winners in the economy, pay the smallest share of their income in state and local taxes, and have the ability to pay more for the investments we need to make;

THEREFORE, let it be resolved that the Somerville School Committee supports the proposed constitutional amendment that would create an additional tax of four percentage points on annual income above one million dollars and dedicate the funds raised by this tax to quality public education, affordable public colleges and universities, and for repair and maintenance of roads, bridges, and public transportation.

VOTED: Unanimous support

DATE: March 7, 2016

BY THE: Somerville School Committee