

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 3401

By Mr. Hill of Ipswich, petition of Bradford Hill relative to the funding of joint public libraries. Tourism, Arts and Cultural Development.

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Seven.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO JOINT PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

*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 19A of Chapter 78 of the General Laws, as appearing in  
2 the 2004 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding the  
3 following paragraph:—

4 For a joint public library, the board may approve at the request of  
5 the cities or towns served by said library a single appropriation  
6 requirement in determining compliance with his section. The  
7 requirement shall be calculated by aggregating the appropriations of  
8 the cities or town administering the library. The board may, upon  
9 petition by all of the cities or towns served by a joint public library,  
10 waive the aforesaid single appropriation requirement upon a demon-  
11 stration of fiscal hardship. A joint public library is defined as an  
12 undertaking of two or more cities or towns to provide public library  
13 service to their residents through a single administrative entity.