

# SENATE NO. 376

## **AN ACT** RELATIVE TO LOCAL VOTING ON SCHOOL BUDGETS

*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 1. Chapter 71 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out section 34 , as  
2 appearing in the 2004 Official Edition, and inserting in place thereof the following section: -  
3 “Section 34. Every city and town shall annually provide an amount of money sufficient for the  
4 support of the public schools as required by this chapter, provided however, that no city or town  
5 shall be required to provide more money for the support of the public schools than is  
6 appropriated by vote of the legislative body of the city or town. In acting on appropriations for  
7 educational expenditures, the city or town appropriating body shall vote on each separate  
8 account, and may place reasonable restrictions on such appropriations. The superintendent of  
9 schools in any city or town may address the local appropriating authority prior to any action on  
10 the school budget as recommended by the school committee notwithstanding his place of  
11 residence. Nothing in this section shall be taken to grant line item autonomy to school  
12 department appropriations.”

