

**AFT MA 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 (STEAM), music, art, and athletics; and

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

**WHEREAS,** additional funding is needed to ensure that all schools can maintain or provide small class sizes, offer social-emotional supports, and hire additional counselors, nurses, librarians, and social workers; and

**WHEREAS,** new state revenue is necessary to rebuild crumbling roads and bridges, improve our public schools from Pre-K through college, invest in fast and reliable public transportation, make public higher education affordable again, and expand opportunities for safe and healthy walking and bicycling; 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;

**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<sup>1</sup>;

**THEREFORE,** let it be resolved that the American Federation of Teachers Massachusetts supports the proposed Fair Share 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.

REVISION OR COMMENTS \_\_\_\_\_  
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ADOPTED \_\_\_\_\_ DEFEATED \_\_\_\_\_ TABLED \_\_\_\_\_

1. Massachusetts Budget and Policy Center, [“Who Pays? Low and Middle Earners in Massachusetts Pay Larger Shares of their Income in Taxes”](#)