

*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1054

**PAUL HEROUX**  
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**RE: H3933 Proposal for a legislative amendment to the Constitution**  
**DT: 21 January 2016**

Dear Mr. Speaker,


I would to go on record in support of H3933, *Proposal for a legislative amendment to the Constitution An Initiative Petition for an Amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth to Provide Resources for Education and Transportation through an additional tax on incomes in excess of One Million Dollars*. This legislation was recently heard by the Joint Committee on Revenue on January 19<sup>th</sup>.

As I am sure you aware, this is a unique piece of legislation because its end goal is to appear on the ballot to be voted on by the people of the Commonwealth. But, because it would change the Constitution of Massachusetts, it must first be approved by the legislature. I would be proud to take a YES vote to further advance this bill through the process. Regardless of one's opinion on the subject matter in the bill, it is important we show the people of the Commonwealth we respect the process.

Additionally, comments were reported in the SHNS today by the Secretary of Education in the Commonwealth with respect to this additional tax that it would harm the state's economy. I have two thoughts about this. The first is that the Secretary may be speaking outside of his area of expertise which leads me to my second point, many other states in the Union have a graduated tax rate and those states are not suffering from negative economic impacts due to a graduated income tax.

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to continuing to work with you and other members in the House this session.

Sincerely,

  
Paul Heroux