



**REPRESENTATIVE JAMES E. VALLEE
MAJORITY LEADER**

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VALLEE ANNOUNCES LOCAL AID FUNDING FOR FRANKLIN AND MEDWAY

Vallee delivers uplifting local aid numbers to Franklin and Medway despite economic climate

BOSTON – Representative James E. Vallee (D-Franklin), House Majority Leader, today announced that amid the swirl of economic turmoil facing our Commonwealth, the communities of Franklin and Medway will receive level funding for local public education, as the House Ways and Means budget was released today with Chapter 70 dollars for Franklin and Medway at heartening levels.

Franklin’s Chapter 70 allocation totals \$28,726,70, consistent with its Fiscal Year 2009 apportionment. Medway was level funded, too; the town’s allocation totals \$9,230,437.

Each town is also slated to receive additional funding through a federal economic stimulus package for public education under the House Ways and Means proposal, according to Vallee. Franklin’s local aid total, with the inclusion of this funding, would exceed \$31 million; Medway’s total would be nearly \$12 million.

“Despite a tough fiscal climate our support for local aid remains and we have provided a sustainable increase at a time when nearly every other part of the budget will see reductions,” said Vallee. “This funding represents a commitment to the students of Franklin and Medway and an investment in the future of our Commonwealth. We couldn’t afford not to put such worthwhile funding highest on our list of priorities.”

In addition to Chapter 70 dollars, both Franklin and Medway are slated in the House Ways and Means budget for unrestricted government local aid, formerly categorized as lottery funding and additional assistance in past budgets. Franklin’s allocation totals more than \$2 million and Medway’s more than \$1 million.

“I’m so delighted that our legislative delegation has again worked so hard for the town of Medway,” said Suzanne Kennedy, Medway town administrator. This is a much-needed boost for us. We’re still struggling to maintain viable fiscal health, and this clearly will be one of the factors that will help Medway improve. I’m very thankful to Representative Vallee and his colleagues in the House for their work.”

“I’m thrilled about this. I want to thank Representative Vallee for protecting the core of our local aid,” said Jeffrey Nutting, Franklin Town Administrator. “This will go a long way in helping the children of Franklin.”

“I am personally ecstatic that our chapter 70 funding did not get cut,” said Christopher Feeley, Franklin Town Council Chairman. “And we’re also getting the stimulus money that was slotted. We thought that chapter 70 would get cut by that amount. The community is making out very well in these times, and it’s a great relief to our school system. And again, our representative has taken care of his constituents to the best of his ability in this economic climate.”

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