

Town of Lunenburg Select Board

Caesar Nuzzolo, Chair
Michael-Ray Jeffreys, Vice Chair
Amanda Moore, Clerk
Tom Alonzo, Member
Renee Emkey, Member



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Lunenburg Select Board Demands Advocacy for Additional Local Aid to Municipalities

We, the Lunenburg Select Board, hereby demand advocacy from State Senator John Cronin, State Representative Margaret Scarsdale, and State Representative Michael Kushmerek, and immediate action from the Legislature to increase Local Aid to municipalities.

WHEREAS the Town of Lunenburg is experiencing an ongoing funding crisis from increased costs such as school transportation, health insurance, out-of-district placements, and other costs that far exceed the limits placed upon municipalities by Proposition 2 ½; and

WHEREAS for a second year in a row, like many municipalities across the Commonwealth, Lunenburg is faced with the possibility of drastic cuts to public education with a \$2 million (8%) shortfall in FY26; and

WHEREAS overall Chapter 90 funding has remained static at \$200 million since 2012, and despite the historic investments made with the Chapter 90 Bond Bill, the purchasing power of municipalities remains below what it was a decade ago due to inflation and rising construction costs;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Lunenburg Select Board respectfully requests that our State Delegation advocate for the following increases in Local Aid:

1. Increase the minimum per pupil funding level to \$150 per pupil from \$104 per pupil.
2. Increase the amount of Unrestricted General Government Aid and prioritize any available supplemental one-time funds for municipalities.
3. Further invest in the Chapter 90 program beyond the increases made by the Bond Bill.
4. Recognize the Chapter 70 formula is significantly inadequate in its current funding and act with urgency to reform and modernize the program.

Signed, this 18th day of March 2025 by:

Caesar Nuzzolo, Chair

Michael-Ray Jeffreys, Vice Chair

Amanda Moore, Clerk

Tom Alonzo, Member

Renee Emkey, Member