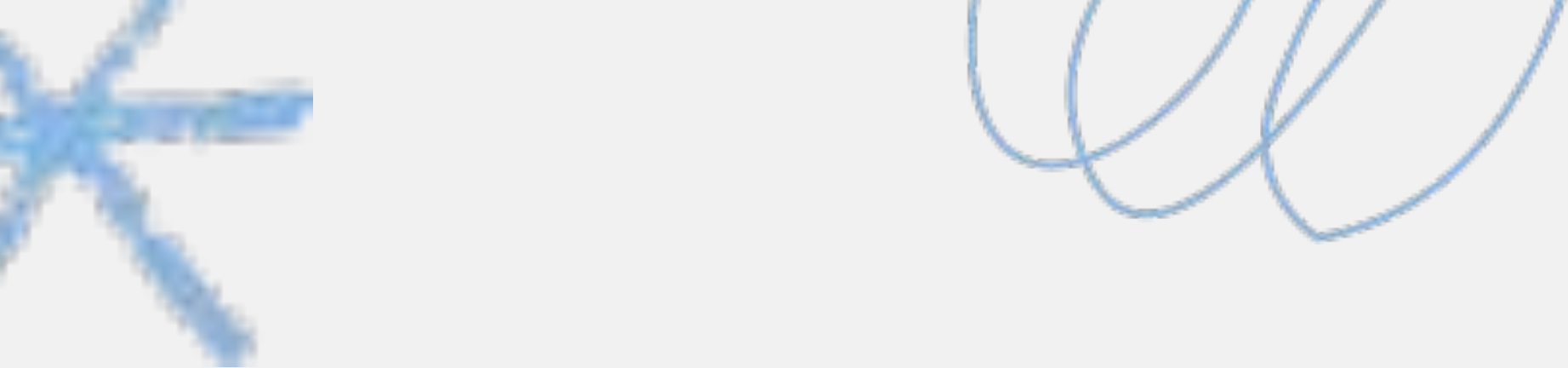


Investigating Special Education

Mandy McLean



Prior Knowledge

Let's check in!

01. IDEA

02. FAPE

03. 40%



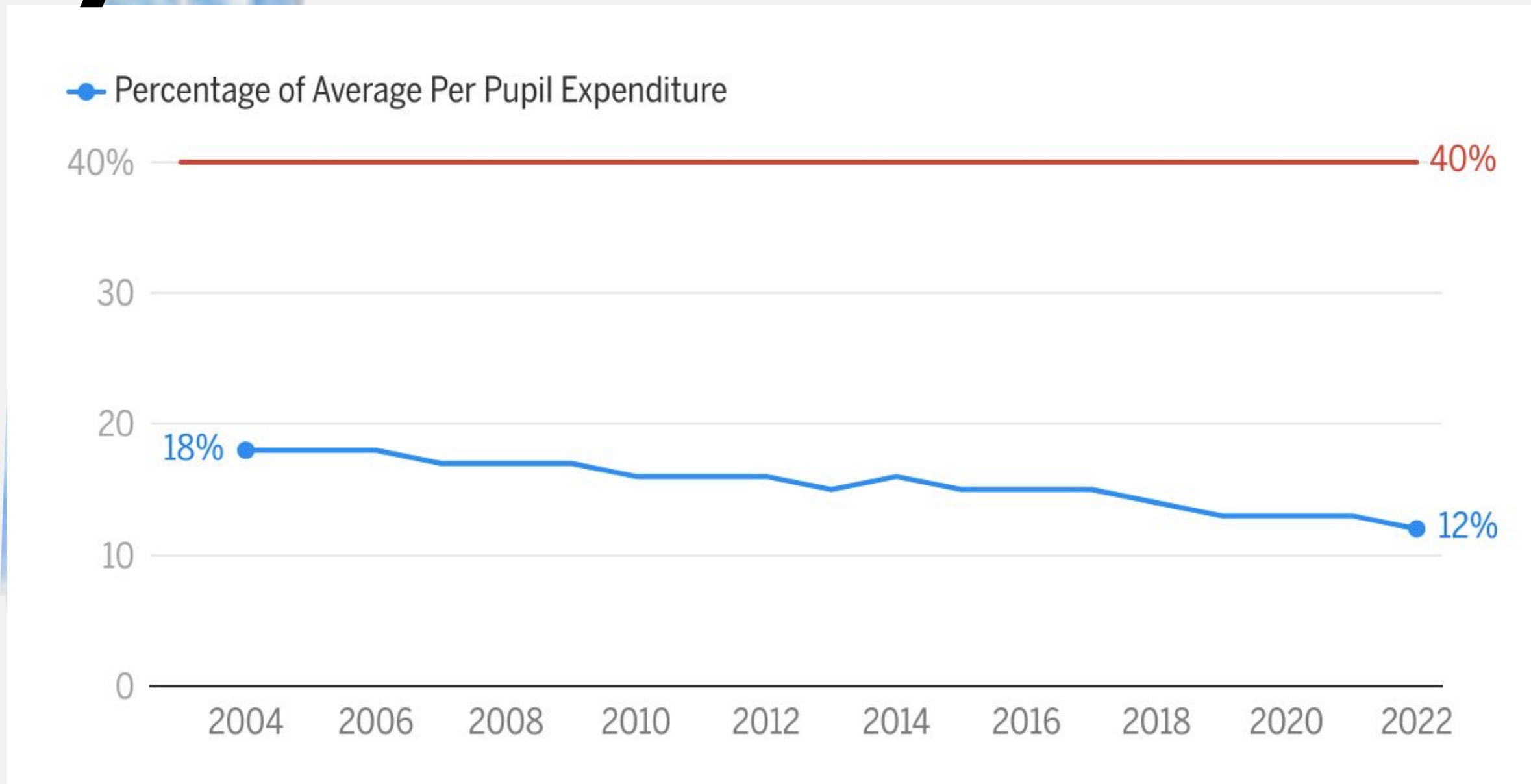
The Promise



Under the 1975 Education for All Handicapped Children Act (known today as the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act), public schools for the first time had a legally-binding duty to educate disabled children, providing instruction and therapies to meet their individual needs. Robust federal funding was promised.

If only Congress had followed through. Instead, it cheaped out.

Reality...



Nearly every investigation you do into special education is affected by this!

THE GREAT DIVIDE

‘I want to scream, but I can’t.’ The hidden world of special education settlements in Mass.

Updated November 12, 2024, 5:40 a.m.

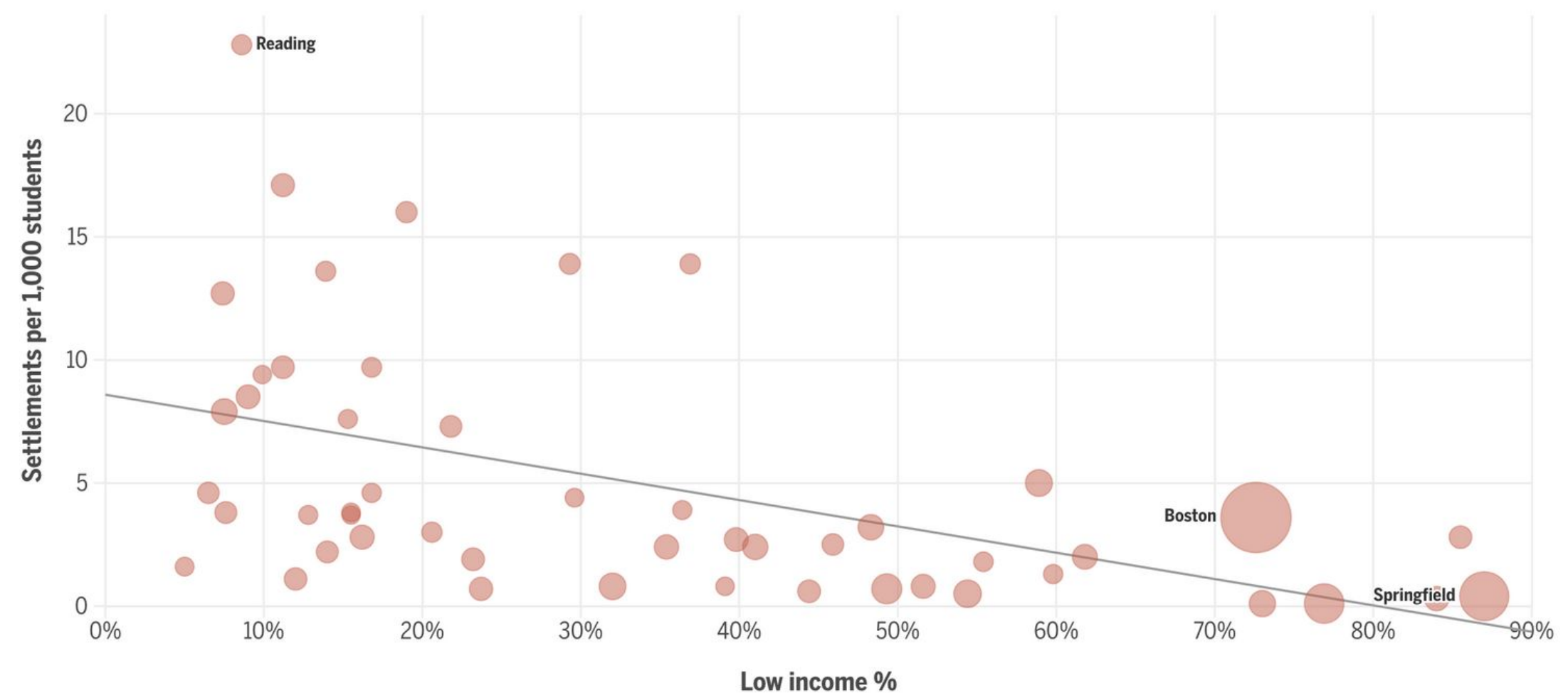


The Parties to this Agreement agree that it shall remain confidential between them and they shall not disclose any terms or this Agreement to anyone, except as required by law or in response to a lawfully issued subpoena. The Parents and their representatives shall not disseminate any

information about the terms of this Mediation Agreement via the internet, **spedpac sites, blogs, social media sites including Meta (Facebook/Instagram, etc), or to the SEPAC** in any form or forum. If asked about this matter, the Parties shall state that the matter has been resolved to satisfaction of both Parties. The Parties further agree that they may, without breach of Agreement, disclose the terms of this settlement to their attorneys, educational consultants, financial advisors, medical, mental health providers, relevant District staff, and/or immediate family members. The Parties also may, as they deem necessary or desirable, seek to introduce copies of this Mediated Agreement as an exhibit in administrative or judicial proceedings for furtherance of enforcing this Mediated Agreement.

Wealthier districts tended to give out more special education settlements

Based on analysis of 2013 to 2023 settlement records from 50 largest school districts in Mass. Dots sized by district enrollment.



Explore documents

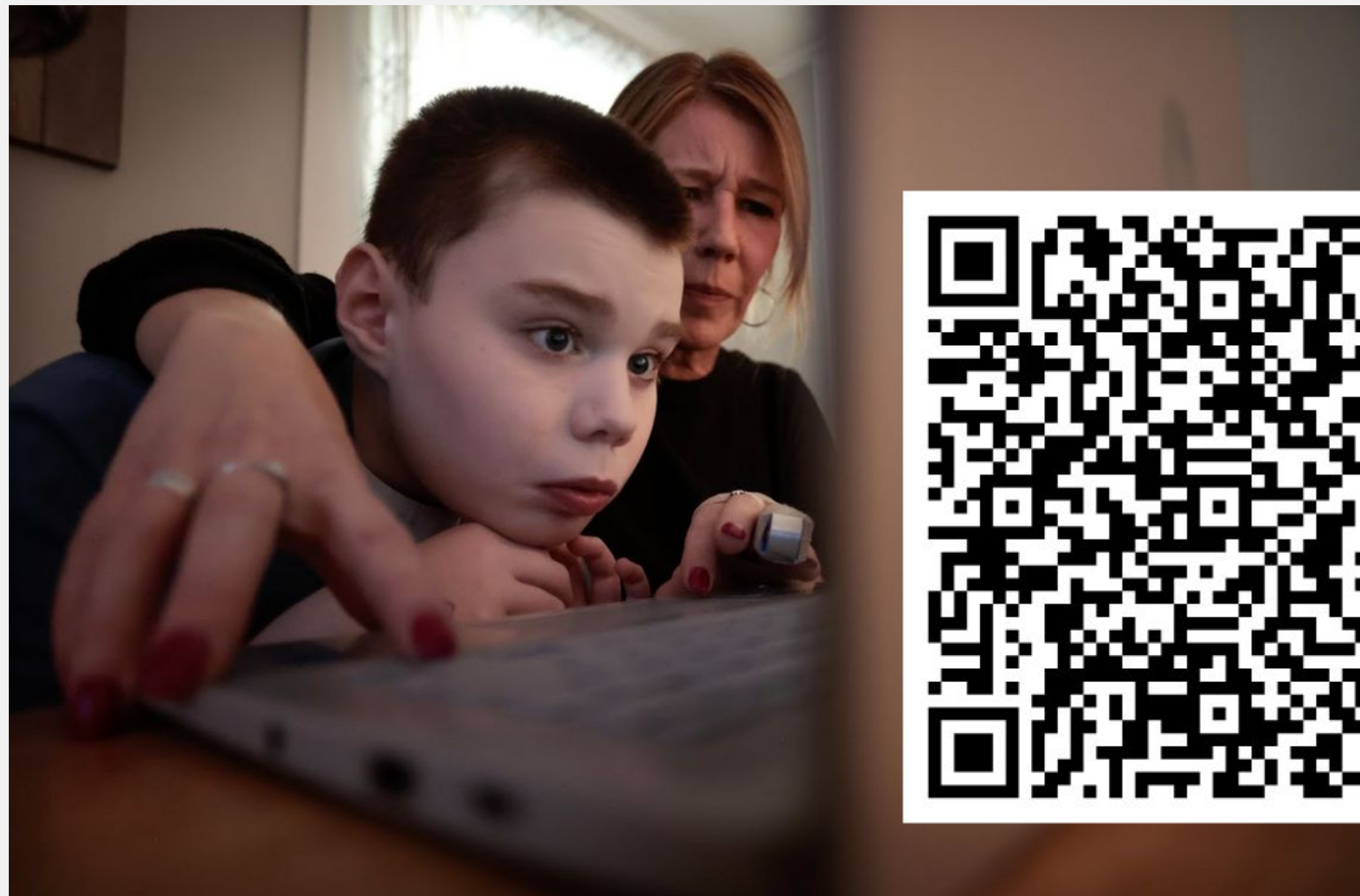
The Globe obtained more than 2,600 individual settlements from 141 Massachusetts school districts, most spanning 2013 to 2023.

Select a district: **Boston** ▼

PDF BOSTON 4	PDF BOSTON 8	PDF BOSTON 9	PDF BOSTON 11	PDF BOSTON 16	PDF BOSTON 22
PDF BOSTON 23	PDF BOSTON 28	PDF BOSTON 29	PDF BOSTON 32	PDF BOSTON 34	PDF BOSTON 37
PDF BOSTON 41	PDF BOSTON 43	PDF BOSTON 45	PDF BOSTON 46	PDF BOSTON 47	PDF BOSTON 54
PDF BOSTON 57	PDF BOSTON 59	PDF BOSTON 61	PDF BOSTON 63	PDF BOSTON 65	PDF BOSTON 67
PDF BOSTON 68	PDF BOSTON 69	PDF BOSTON 70	PDF BOSTON 73	PDF BOSTON 75	PDF BOSTON 79
PDF BOSTON 81	PDF BOSTON 88	PDF BOSTON 91	PDF BOSTON 92	PDF BOSTON 95	PDF BOSTON 96
PDF BOSTON 97	PDF BOSTON 100	PDF BOSTON 101	PDF BOSTON 102	PDF BOSTON 103	PDF BOSTON 104

► **About the data**

► **How to request records**



**The promise
unkept: How
Congress failed**

**America's
disabled students**

LMK your email address if you want me to send you my next story :)