



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

MASSACHUSETTS SENATE
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means
FROM: Chair Michael J. Rodrigues
DATE: March 6, 2023
SUBJECT: Poll

Attached is a summary of the bill presently before the Senate Committee on Ways and Means. Committee members will be polled today from 10:45 am to 11:45 am on the question of reporting the bill favorably.

Please be advised that under Senate Rule 12, all recorded votes of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means will be posted on the website of the General Court immediately following the conclusion of the poll.

Do not hesitate to contact Aaron Carty in my office if you have any questions. Thank you for your participation.

HOUSE 58:

AN ACT MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2023 TO PROVIDE FOR SUPPLEMENTING CERTAIN EXISTING APPROPRIATIONS AND FOR CERTAIN OTHER ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS

(summary reflects text as redrafted)

SPONSORS:

House Committee on Ways and Means

LEGISLATIVE

03/01/23 H57, published as amended, Passed to be engrossed - 153 YEAS to 0 NAYS (See YEA and NAY No. 11)

HISTORY:

03/02/23 Read and referred to the Committee on Senate Ways and Means

EXISTING LAWS

AFFECTED:

M.G.L. c. 6C §9; c. 22C § 72; c. 23N §§ 3, 5, 8; c. 29 § 2LLLLL; c.32A § 22B; c. 94G § 14A; c. 112 § 65G; c. 126 § 8K; c. 156 § 7.08; c. 176O § 14; c. 180 § 6A; c. 221; c. 222 §§ 1A, 8, 16, 18, 22; Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021; Chapter 24 of the Acts of 2021; Chapter 102 of the Acts of 2021; Chapter 22 of the Acts of 2022; Chapter 76 of the Acts of 2022; Chapter 77 of the Acts of 2022; Chapter 107 of the Acts of 2022; Chapter 126 of the Acts of 2022; Chapter 176 of the Acts of 2022; Chapter 177 of the Acts of 2022; Chapter 268 of the Acts of 2022.

PROPOSED LEGISLATION:

- Appropriates \$366.7M of fiscal year 2023 direct appropriations, including:
 - \$130M for SNAP emergency benefits.
 - \$85M for emergency shelter assistance and related assistance.
 - \$68M for the continuation of the C3 stabilization grant program.
 - \$65M for the universal school meals pilot program.
 - \$8.3M for judgments, settlements, and legal fees.
 - \$7M for coordinated wraparound services for incoming immigrants and refugees.
 - \$2M for the reimbursement of SNAP benefits for victims of benefit theft.
 - \$1M for a crisis pregnancy center and pregnancy resource center public awareness campaign.
 - \$250K for Reproductive Equity Now’s Abortion Legal Hotline.
 - \$200K for the Cape and Islands District Attorney’s Office.
- Authorizes \$814.3M in bond obligations, including:

- \$400M for MassWorks.
 - \$200M for state matching funds to compete for federal grant opportunities, including the CHIPS and Science Act.
 - \$104M for the Clean Water Trust Fund.
 - \$34M to revitalize underutilized properties.
 - \$30M for state matching funds to compete for federal broadband expansion grants.
 - \$15M for the Massachusetts Manufacturing Innovation Initiatives Program.
 - \$14M for the Massachusetts Manufacturing Accelerate Program.
 - \$9.3M for broadband middle mile supports.
 - \$8M for the Smart Growth Housing Trust Fund.
- Requires the Director of Internal Special Audits within the Department of Transportation to submit a report of the unit's activities for inclusion in the Inspector General's annual report.
 - Requires the Director of Internal Special Audits within the Department of State Police to submit a report of the unit's activities for inclusion in the Inspector General's annual report.
 - Makes technical changes to allow the Gaming Commission to obtain fingerprint data of sports wagering applicants in order to bring the statute into compliance with FBI protocol necessary to perform national fingerprint-based background checks.
 - Clarifies that expenditures from the Low-Income services solar program are not subject to appropriation.
 - Makes several technical corrections to the Mental Health ABC Act.
 - Clarifies that expenditures from the Cannabis Social Equity Trust Fund are not subject to appropriation.
 - Allows public corporations to hold annual or special meetings of shareholders by means of remote communications if authorized by the board of directors.
 - Allows notaries public physically located in the Commonwealth to conduct remote online notarization through the use of communication technology.

- Permits a municipality to allow outdoor dining until April 1, 2024.
- Allows a public body to have remote participation by all members in any meeting of the public body without a physical quorum of the body present at the specified meeting location until March 31, 2025.
- Allows the select board of a town to vote, in consultation and with the approval of the town moderator, to prescribe the number of voters necessary to constitute a quorum at any town meeting, either representative or open, held until March 31, 2025.
- Allows the moderator in a town having a representative town meeting form of government to request the town meeting be held through remote participation, including, but not limited to, by means of a video or telephone conferencing platform, until March 31, 2025.
- Allows for the practice of nursing, in accordance with guidance from the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing, by graduates and students in their last semester of nursing education programs until March 31, 2024.
- Adds an additional member of the Senate and House of Representatives to the 250th Anniversary of the Revolution Commission.
- Extends the reporting deadline for the State Seal and Motto Commission to November 15, 2023.
- Clarifies that a remote town meeting in a town having a representative town meeting form of government may include fully remote and hybrid participation.
- Extends the reporting deadline for the Women's History Trail Commission to December 31, 2023.
- Extends the reporting deadline for the Behavioral Health Advisory Commission to June 1, 2023.

- Allows an assisted living residence to retain residents who require skilled care for more than 90 consecutive days until September 30, 2023.
- Extends the reporting deadline for the Inclusive Concurrent Enrollment Advisory Board Task Force to September 30, 2023.
- Requires the Department of Higher Education and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to promulgate regulations for the Inclusive Concurrent Enrollment program not later than December 31, 2023.
- Extends the reporting deadline for the East-West Passenger Rail commission June 30, 2023.
- Revives and continues the Commission on Poverty until December 31, 2024.
- Establishes a commission to examine the potential negative environmental and economic impacts caused by the discharge of processed water into the waters of the commonwealth.

ESTIMATED

FISCAL

IMPACT:

This legislation has a cost of \$366.7M to the Commonwealth in fiscal year 2023 direct appropriations. This legislation authorizes \$814.3M in bond obligations.

(AHC)