

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1854**

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A message from His Excellency the Governor recommending legislation relative to providing for the municipal road and bridge maintenance needs of the Commonwealth

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the Year Two Thousand Eleven**  
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**AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE MUNICIPAL ROAD AND BRIDGE MAINTENANCE NEEDS OF THE COMMONWEALTH.**

*Whereas*, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to provide for the municipal road and bridge maintenance needs of the commonwealth, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1           To provide for a capital outlay program of maintenance and improvements to municipal  
2 road and bridge assets of the commonwealth, the sums set forth in sections 2 for the several  
3 purposes and subject to the conditions specified in this act are hereby made available, subject to  
4 the laws regulating the disbursement of public funds, which sums are in addition to any other  
5 amounts previously appropriated for these purposes.

6           SECTION 2.

7           DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

8           6122-1190   For the construction and reconstruction of town and county ways as  
9 described in clause (b) of section 4 of chapter 6C of the General Laws; provided that a city or

10 town shall comply with the procedures established by the division of highways within the  
11 department of transportation; provided further, that any such city or town may appropriate for  
12 these projects amounts not in excess of the amount provided to the city or town under this item  
13 preliminary notice of which shall be provided by the department to the city or town no later than  
14 April 1 of each year; provided further, that the commonwealth shall reimburse any such city or  
15 town under this item within 30 days after receipt by the department of a request for  
16 reimbursement from the city or town, which request shall include certification by the city or  
17 town that actual expenses have been incurred on projects eligible for reimbursement under this  
18 item, and that the work has been completed to the satisfaction of the city or town according to  
19 the specifications of the project and in compliance with applicable laws and procedures  
20 established by the department. \$200,000,000

21 SECTION 3. To meet the expenditures necessary in carrying out section 2, the state  
22 treasurer shall, upon request of the governor, issue and sell bonds of the commonwealth in an  
23 amount to be specified by the governor from time to time but not exceeding, in the aggregate,  
24 \$200,000,000. All these bonds issued by the commonwealth shall be designated on their face,  
25 Maintenance and Improvement of Municipal Roads Act of 2011, and shall be issued for a  
26 maximum term of years, not exceeding 30 years, as the governor may recommend to the general  
27 court under section 3 of Article LXII of the Amendments to the Constitution. All these bonds  
28 shall be payable not later than June 30, 2046. All interest and payments on account of principal  
29 on these obligations shall be payable from the General Fund. Bonds and interest thereon issued  
30 under this section shall, notwithstanding any other provisions of this act, be general obligations  
31 of the commonwealth.