

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 3954

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, January 21, 2016.

The committee on Higher Education to whom was referred the joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1068) of Tom Sannicandro, Michael Moore and others relative to strengthening and expanding affordable, quality higher education opportunities for residents of the Commonwealth, reports, in part, recommending that the accompanying bill (House, No. 3954) ought to pass.

For the committee,

TOM SANNICANDRO.

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3954**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court  
(2015-2016)**  
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An Act providing capital funding for public higher education.

*Whereas*, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to assist in providing forthwith affordable postsecondary educational opportunities for residents 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           SECTION 1. To provide for a program of capital improvements to public higher  
2 education institutions to provide support for these institutions in carrying out their educational  
3 missions and to enhance regional economic development through their educational initiatives,  
4 the sums set forth in this section, for the several purposes and subject to the conditions specified  
5 in this act, are hereby made available, subject to the laws regulating the disbursement of public  
6 funds, which sums shall be in addition to any other amounts previously appropriated for these  
7 purposes.

8           EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

9           Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance

10           7066-XXXX For costs associated with planning and studies, dispositions, acquisition of  
11 land and buildings and interests therein by purchase or by eminent domain under chapter 79 of  
12 the General Laws and for the preparation of plans and specifications, repairs, construction,  
13 renovations, improvements, maintenance and repair, asset management and demolition at the  
14 state universities and community college campus facilities and grounds; provided, that all  
15 projects approved for design and construction by the division of capital asset management and  
16 maintenance for the state universities and community colleges shall be consistent in priority and  
17 need with capital master plans developed by the division of capital asset management and  
18 maintenance, in consultation with the presidents of the state universities and community colleges  
19 and approved by the board of higher education; and provided further, that all maintenance and  
20 repair work funded by this item shall be included in the capital asset management information  
21 system administered by the division of capital asset management .....\$2,100,000,000

22           7100-XXXX For costs associated with planning and studies, dispositions, acquisition of  
23 land and buildings and interests therein by purchase or by eminent domain under chapter 79 of  
24 the General Laws and for the preparation of plans and specifications, repairs, construction,  
25 renovations, improvements, maintenance and repair, asset management and demolition at the  
26 university of Massachusetts campus facilities and grounds; provided, that all projects approved  
27 for design and construction by the division of capital asset management and maintenance for the  
28 university of Massachusetts shall be consistent in priority and need with capital master plans  
29 developed by the university of Massachusetts and approved by the board of trustees of the  
30 university of Massachusetts; and provided further, that all maintenance and repair work funded  
31 by this item shall be included in the capital asset management information system administered  
32 by the division of capital asset management .....\$2,100,000,000

SECTION 2. To meet the expenditures necessary in carrying out section 1, the state treasurer shall, upon request of the governor, issue and sell bonds of the commonwealth in an amount to be specified by the governor from time to time but not exceeding, in the aggregate, \$4,200,000,000. All bonds issued by the commonwealth as aforesaid shall be designated on their face, Public Higher Education Capital Expenditure Act of 2016, and shall be issued for a maximum term of years, not exceeding 30 years, as the governor may recommend to the general court under section 3 of Article LXII of the Amendments to the Constitution. The bonds shall be payable not later than June 30, 2055. All interest and payments on account of principal on these obligations shall be payable from the General Fund. Bonds and interest on bonds issued under this section shall, notwithstanding any other provision of this act, be general obligations of the commonwealth.

SECTION 3. The secretary of administration and finance shall submit a report on the progress and all expenditures related to any projects funded through the authorizations in section 1 of this act to the secretary of education, the board of higher education, the chairs of the senate and house committees on ways and means, the senate and house chairs of the joint committee on higher education, and the chairs of the committees on Bonding, Capital Expenditures and State Assets. The report shall include, but not be limited to: the total amount appropriated for each project; the total estimated cost of each project; the amount expended for the planning and design of each project up to the time the report is filed; the amount expended on construction of each project up to the time the report is filed; the total amount currently expended on each project; the estimated lifetime maintenance schedule and cost of each project; the original estimated completion date of each project; and the current anticipated completion date of each project.

55 The report shall be submitted on December 31 of each year for a period of 10 years from the  
56 effective date of this act.