HOUSE No. 3965

The Commonwealth of Alassachusetts



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS STATE HOUSE · BOSTON, MA 02133

KARYN POLITO LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

January 22, 2016

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives,

Pursuant to Article LVI, as amended by Article XC, Section 3 of the Amendments to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, I am returning to you for amendment House Bill No. 3890, "An Act Extending a Certain Property Tax Exemption for Seniors in the Town of Sudbury."

In 2012, the Legislature passed special legislation that authorizes the town of Sudbury to create a property tax exemption for income eligible seniors on their principal domiciles. That act expires after three years of implementation of the exemption, and Sudbury commendably seeks now to extend the exemption and allow for its renewal every three years by town meeting vote. This Act achieves that goal, with the condition that a majority of town voters must first support it at a town annual or special meeting.

The bill supplies the form of the question to be presented to the voters and unfortunately contains an inadvertent error, referring to this Act as one "passed by the general court in the year 2015," rather than 2016.

I, therefore, recommend that House Bill No. 3890 be amended in Section 2 by striking out the figure "2015" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "2016".

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles D. Baker, *Governor*