

HOUSE No. 4950

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts



CHARLES D. BAKER
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
24 BEACON STREET · BOSTON, MA 02133

KARYN POLITO
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

October 29, 2018

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives,

I am filing for your consideration a bill entitled “An Act Making Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2019 to Provide for Supplementing Certain Existing Appropriations and for Certain Other Activities and Projects.”

This bill consists of \$5 million in a supplemental appropriation to support a regional, multi-agency approach to fentanyl interdiction and crime displacement by Massachusetts municipal police departments. Opiate overdoses, and particularly fentanyl overdoses, continue to plague our communities. In response to our outreach to dozens of police departments suggesting a regional response, the feedback we heard was overwhelmingly positive.

Too often, when law enforcement conducts strong and widespread drug arrests in a particular community, those dealers not caught up in the sweep move their business to a neighboring community in order to continue their sales. This initiative would provide funding to police departments to conduct a prolonged and aggressive approach to addressing the fentanyl problem. The initiative would require communication and information-sharing among police departments, and whenever possible, coordination of their activities to facilitate arrests of traffickers in a given community and to reduce the displacement of drug dealers into neighboring communities.

Sufficient revenues are estimated to be available to finance these appropriations. Because of the urgency of the problem, I urge you to enact this legislation promptly.

Respectfully submitted

Charles D. Baker,
Governor

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
(2017-2018)**

An Act making appropriations for fiscal year 2019 to provide for supplementing certain existing appropriations and for certain other activities and projects.

Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purposes, which are forthwith to make supplemental appropriations for fiscal year 2019 and to make certain changes in law, each of which is immediately necessary to carry out those appropriations or to accomplish other important public purposes, 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 certain unanticipated obligations of the commonwealth, to provide for an
2 alteration of purpose for current appropriations, and to meet certain requirements of law, the sum
3 set forth in this section is hereby appropriated from the General Fund, for the purpose and
4 subject to the conditions specified in this section, and subject to the laws regulating the
5 disbursement of public funds for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019.

6 EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY

7 Office of the Secretary of Public Safety and Security

8 8000-0140 For a grant program administered by the Executive Office of Public Safety
9 and Security for regional fentanyl interdiction; provided, that administrative costs for approved

10 grants shall not exceed 2 per cent of the funds appropriated in this item.....

11 \$5,000,000