

HOUSE No. 4285

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts



CHARLES D. BAKER
GOVERNOR

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KARYN POLITO
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

January 3, 2020

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives,

I am filing for your consideration a bill entitled “An Act Making Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2020 to Provide for Supplementing Certain Existing Appropriations and for Certain Other Activities and Projects.”

I recommend \$74.2 million in spending, at a net state cost of \$68.1 million. Except for one item related to collective bargaining, I recommended each item of spending proposed in bills I filed during 2019.

Last fiscal year, tax revenue collections exceeded budgeted estimates by \$1.1 billion, creating an opportunity to address unmet critical needs at the end of Fiscal Year 2019 (FY19). Despite ample available revenue, the bill passed by the Legislature omitted certain key public spending. For that reason, I am refiled critical items that I previously proposed, in a narrower version intended to fit within currently available revenue in Fiscal Year 2020 (FY20).

This bill provides the MBTA with \$18 million, which, combined with the \$32 million authorized in the FY19 final supplemental bill, allows for a total of \$50 million. These funds will support additional staff, contractors, and other resources necessary to expedite the completion of critical capital projects, to enable proactive inspections to detect and address safety and reliability issues before they impact service, and to implement enhanced maintenance procedures to ensure the reliable operation of MBTA vehicles and infrastructure.

Additionally, I recommend that \$4.2 million be authorized to determine the scale of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) contamination in drinking water supplies. This testing will support state and local efforts to determine the scope of the problem and to identify best solutions, and will supplement the \$4.2 million authorized in the final FY19 supplemental budget.

I further recommend that \$10 million be transferred to the Twenty-First Century Education Trust Fund. This request reframes my recommendation from last year that the Legislature transfer \$50 million into a fund for school improvement. Subsequently, the Student Opportunity Act established the Twenty-First Century Education Trust Fund “to address persistent disparities in achievement among student subgroups, improve educational opportunities for all students, share best practices for improving classroom learning and support efficiencies within and across school districts.” I support these ends and believe we need to provide the means to achieve them.

I recommend \$5.4 million for service improvements for men who are civilly committed for substance use treatment under Section 35 of Chapter 123 of the General Laws. This amount is reduced from the \$16.4 million I requested last fiscal year because expenses for partial year spending in FY20 will be less than the full annual costs that were originally forecast.

I recommend \$12.3 million (for a total of \$16.3 million, including FY19 funding) for Safety Net Provider Hospitals, \$3 million for Community Compact and \$5 million for Early College.

Finally, I recommend \$16.3 million and a related authorizing section to ratify a recently concluded collective bargaining agreement. This cost was anticipated as an FY20 expense when I signed the FY20 budget.

Sufficient revenues are estimated to be available to finance the appropriations and other measures proposed in this legislation. As the needs identified in this supplemental spending request have now been urgent for months, I ask you to enact this legislation promptly.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles D. Baker,
Governor

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court
(2019-2020)**

An Act making appropriations for the fiscal year 2020 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 2020 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 SECTION 1. To provide for supplementing certain items in the general appropriation act
2 and other appropriation acts for fiscal year 2020, the sums set forth in section 2 are hereby
3 appropriated from the General Fund unless specifically designated otherwise in this act or in
4 those appropriation acts, for the several purposes and subject to the conditions specified in this
5 act or in those appropriation acts, and subject to the laws regulating the disbursement of public
6 funds for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020. These sums shall be in addition to any amounts
7 previously appropriated and made available for the purposes of those items. These sums shall be
8 made available until June 30, 2021.

9 SECTION 2.

10 EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

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Reserves

1599-0026	Municipal Regionalization Reserve	\$3,000,000
1599-4448	Collective Bargaining Reserve	\$16,300,000

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Office of the Secretary

1595-1070	Safety Net Provider Trust Fund	\$12,300,000
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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF EDUCATION

Office of the Secretary

7009-6600	Early College	\$5,000,000
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SECTION 2A. To provide for certain unanticipated obligations of the commonwealth, to provide for an alteration of purpose for current appropriations, and to meet certain requirements of law, the sums set forth in this section are hereby appropriated from the General Fund unless specifically designated otherwise in this section, for the several purposes and subject to the conditions specified in this section, and subject to the laws regulating the disbursement of public funds for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020. Except as otherwise stated, these sums shall be made available until June 30, 2021.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

Reserves

29 1599-1214 For a reserve for expansion, upgrades, or enhancements to staffing,
30 operations, or infrastructure for new and existing facilities that treat men with an alcohol or
31 substance use disorder under sections 1 and 35 of chapter 123 of the General Laws; provided,
32 that the secretary of administration and finance may transfer funds from this item to state
33 agencies as defined in section 1 of chapter 29 of the General Laws..... \$5,400,000

34 EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

35 *Department of Environmental Protection*

36 2250-2002 For the testing of potential Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)
37 contamination of water supplies and for grants to support treatment and design of affected
38 drinking water systems; provided, that any unexpended funds in this item shall not revert but
39 shall be made available for the purpose of this item until June 30, 2021 \$4,200,000

40 SECTION 2E. The sums set forth in this section are hereby appropriated for transfer
41 from the General Fund to the trust funds named within each item unless specifically designated
42 otherwise in this section, for the purposes and subject to the conditions specified in this section
43 and subject to the laws regulating the disbursement of public funds for the fiscal year ending
44 June 30, 2019. Notwithstanding section 19A of said chapter 29, any transfer under this section
45 shall be made effective by the comptroller no later than June 30, 2020.

46 MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

47 *One-time MBTA Resource Assistance*

48 1595-6389 For an operating transfer to the Massachusetts Bay Transportation
49 Authority, or any fund controlled by the authority, for additional staffing and contract costs to

50 support capital project delivery, inspection and maintenance activities, and service diversions
51 necessary to accelerate capital projects\$18,000,000

52 Commonwealth Transportation Fund.....100%

53 EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF EDUCATION

54 *Office of the Secretary*

55 1595-0035 For an operating transfer to the Twenty-First Century Education Trust Fund
56 established in section 35NNN of chapter 10 of the General Laws; provided, that funds may be
57 used for effective and sustainable improvement initiatives in public schools designated as in need
58 of assistance pursuant to the school accountability system established by the board of elementary
59 and secondary education \$10,000,000

60 SECTION 3. The salary adjustments and other economic benefits authorized by the
61 following collective bargaining agreement shall be effective for the purposes of section 7 of
62 chapter 150E of the General Laws:

63 (1) between the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the State Police Association of
64 Massachusetts, Unit 5A.