

# **HOUSE . . . . . No. 4803**

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, June 22, 2020.

The committee on Ways and Means, to whom was referred the Bill financing improvements to municipal roads and bridges (printed in House, No. 4326), reports, on the residue, recommending that the same ought to pass with an amendment substituting therefor the accompanying bill (House, No. 4803). [Bond Issue: General Obligation Bonds: \$200,000,000.00].

For the committee,

AARON MICHLEWITZ.

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 4803**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

An Act financing improvements to municipal roads and bridges.

*Whereas*, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to finance improvements to the commonwealth’s transportation system, 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 transportation development and improvements,  
2 the sum set forth in section 2 for the several purposes and subject to the conditions specified in  
3 this act, is hereby made available, subject to the laws regulating the disbursement of public  
4 funds. The sum made available in this act shall be in addition to any amounts previously  
5 appropriated or made available for these purposes.

6           SECTION 2.

7           MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

8           Highway Division

9           6122-2124   For the construction and reconstruction of municipal ways as described in  
10 clause (b) of the second paragraph of section 4 of chapter 6C of the General Laws; provided, that

11 a city or town shall comply with the procedures established by the Massachusetts Department of  
12 Transportation; provided further, that a city or town may expend, without further appropriation,  
13 for these projects amounts not in excess of the amount provided to the city or town under this  
14 item upon preliminary notice of such amount, which shall be provided by the department to the  
15 city or town not later than March 1 of each year; and provided further, that the commonwealth  
16 shall reimburse a city or town under this item, subject to the availability of funds as provided in  
17 section 9G of chapter 29 of the General Laws, within 30 days after receipt by the department of a  
18 request for reimbursement from the city or town, which request shall include certification by the  
19 city or town that actual expenses have been incurred on projects eligible for reimbursement  
20 under this item and that the work has been completed to the satisfaction of the city or town  
21 according to the specifications of the project and in compliance with applicable laws and  
22 procedures established by the department.....\$200,000,000

23 SECTION 3. Section 200 of chapter 46 of the acts of 2015 is hereby amended by striking  
24 out subsection (f) and inserting in place thereof the following subsection:-

25 (f) The control board shall initiate and assure the implementation of appropriate measures  
26 to secure the fiscal, operational and managerial stability of the authority and shall continue in  
27 existence until June 30, 2021. Subsection (g) shall control the terms of the control board's  
28 dissolution.

29 SECTION 4. To meet the expenditures necessary in carrying out section 2, the state  
30 treasurer shall, upon request of the governor, issue and sell bonds of the commonwealth in an  
31 amount to be specified by the governor from time to time but not exceeding, in the aggregate,  
32 \$200,000,000. All bonds issued by the commonwealth as aforesaid shall be designated on their

33 face, Commonwealth Transportation Improvement Act of 2020, and shall be issued for a  
34 maximum term of years, not exceeding 30 years, as the governor may recommend to the general  
35 court under section 3 of Article LXII of the Amendments to the Constitution. All such bonds  
36 shall be payable not later than June 30, 2055, pursuant to said section 3 of said Article LXII. All  
37 interest and payments on account of principal on these obligations shall be payable from the  
38 General Fund. Notwithstanding any other general or special law to the contrary, bonds issued  
39 under this section and interest thereon shall be general obligations of the commonwealth.