

HOUSE No. 73

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

Resolve establishing the Massachusetts government assistance task force to address the statewide impacts of the 2018-2019 federal government shutdown.

1 **Resolved**, that there be a bipartisan emergency response task force for the purpose of proactively
2 identifying ways in which the commonwealth can respond to its citizens and affected
3 communities during and immediately following the 2018-2019 federal government shutdown in
4 a way that provides financial support and government services for those affected by the
5 shutdown.

6 The task force shall convene within 5 business days upon approval of the resolve and
7 consist of 9 members: The governor or a designee, who shall serve as chair; the attorney general
8 or a designee; 3 members of the senate, 2 of whom shall be appointed by the senate president, 1
9 of whom shall be appointed by the minority leader; 3 members of the house of representatives, 2
10 of whom shall be appointed by the speaker, one of whom shall be appointed by the minority
11 leader; and the secretary of administration and finance or a designee. The task force shall work in
12 consultation with appropriate state agency heads, representatives of federal government and
13 other relevant entities deemed necessary.

14 The task force shall analyze the short term and long term impacts of the 2018-2019
15 federal government shutdown. The task force shall issue a public report that includes but is not
16 limited to, an analysis of government programs impacted, how Massachusetts residents are
17 impacted, and the potential cost and economic impact to the commonwealth during a short term
18 and long term shut down.

19 The task force shall develop a response plan for the commonwealth that prioritizes the
20 continuation of services for its residents and communities. It shall identify administrative actions,
21 policy changes and legislative proposals as necessary for consideration to address both short
22 term and long term impacts, focusing foremost on the loss of revenue, impacted federal
23 employees and beneficiaries impacted by the loss of federal services.

24 A detailed impact report and an initial response plan shall be filed with the clerks of the
25 house of representatives and the senate, and made available to the public, on or before February
26 1, 2019. The task force may issue additional reports, findings and suggested actions, including
27 legislation, at any time during its authority.

28 The task force shall dissolve exactly 30 days after the end of the 2018-2019 federal
29 government shutdown. Prior to dissolving, the task force shall issue a final report detailing the
30 total economic impact to the Commonwealth as a result of the federal government shutdown.