

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 4219

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, October 25, 2021.

The committee on Ways and Means, to whom was referred the message from His Excellency the Governor recommending legislation relative to immediate COVID recovery needs (House, No. 3922), reports, in part, recommending that the accompanying bill ought to pass (House, No. 4219) [Total appropriations: 3,649,913,000.00].

For the committee,

AARON MICHLEWITZ.

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 4219

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court  
(2021-2022)  
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An Act relative to immediate COVID-19 recovery needs.

*Whereas*, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purposes, which are forthwith to direct the expenditure of certain federal funds 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 2022, 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 appropriations acts, for the several purposes and subject to the conditions specified in this  
5   act, and subject to the laws regulating the disbursement of public funds for the fiscal year in  
6   which the sums are disbursed. These sums shall be in addition to any amounts previously  
7   appropriated and made available for the purposes of those items.

8           SECTION 2.

9           EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

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*Department of Revenue*

1201-0122 ..... \$213,000

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

*Office of the Secretary of Health and Human Services*

1599-6903 ..... \$39,400,000

4000-0300 ..... \$300,000

4003-0122 ..... \$12,000,000

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 in which the sums are disbursed. These sums shall be in addition to any amounts previously appropriated and made available for the purposes of those items.

1599-2020 For a reserve to create and maintain opportunities for homeownership for residents of municipalities disproportionately impacted by the pandemic; provided, that funds shall be expended to create and enhance access to homeownership in order to foster a strong, inclusive and equitable recovery with long-term benefits for housing security, health and economic outcomes, and to address a systemic homeownership gap that contributed to more severe impacts of the pandemic in socially disadvantaged communities and among targeted populations; provided further, that funds shall be expended to create opportunities for first-time

31 homebuyers; provided further, that funds may be expended for down payment assistance  
32 programs, mortgage insurance programs and mortgage interest subsidy programs administered  
33 by the Massachusetts Housing Finance Agency and the Massachusetts Housing Partnership; and  
34 provided further, that funds may be expended to first-time homebuyer counseling and financial  
35 literacy programs.....\$100,000,000

36 Federal COVID-19 Response Fund .....100%

37 1599-2021 For a reserve to support the production of for-sale housing to expand  
38 homeownership opportunities for residents of municipalities disproportionately impacted by the  
39 pandemic through programs administered by Massachusetts Housing Finance Agency and  
40 Massachusetts Housing Partnership; provided, that funds shall be expended for programs  
41 including, but not limited to, the Commonwealth Builder Program; provided further, that grants  
42 and loans to developers shall be used to facilitate production of affordable homeownership units;  
43 and provided further, that the minimum number of units for qualifying projects shall be 6 under  
44 the Commonwealth Builder Program..... \$100,000,000

45 Federal COVID-19 Response Fund .....100%

46 1599-2022 For a reserve to support the production of affordable rental housing for  
47 residents of municipalities disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic through  
48 programs administered by the department of housing and community development directly or  
49 through 1 or more of the following: Massachusetts Housing Finance Agency, Massachusetts  
50 Housing Partnership and Community Economic Development Assistance Corporation; provided,  
51 that funds shall be expended in the form of grants, loans or other financial assistance to projects

52 receiving federal or state low-income housing tax credits, state tax-exempt bond financing or  
53 other state financial assistance in the form of grants or loans.....\$100,000,000

54 Federal COVID-19 Response Fund .....100%

55 1599-2023 For a reserve to support the production of permanent supportive housing  
56 for chronically homeless individuals, survivors of domestic violence, seniors and veterans  
57 through programs administered by the department of housing and community development;  
58 provided, that not less than \$15,000,000 shall be expended for the Massachusetts Alliance for  
59 Supportive Housing LLC for the creation of supportive housing to address the public health  
60 emergency of homelessness, exacerbated by COVID-19, due to densely populated congregate  
61 shelters and growing encampments of unsheltered individuals; provided further, that funds shall  
62 be expended in the form of grants that shall include rental assistance and funding for support  
63 services to projects that provide services so that the targeted population may move and remain  
64 out of homelessness; provided further, that said projects and services shall prioritize those  
65 communities most affected by the physical and mental health impacts of the pandemic and by  
66 prior physical and mental health disparities; provided further, that funds for acquisition and  
67 development shall be encouraged to be integrated with other federal, state and municipal  
68 resources for operating subsidies and services; and provided further, that a portion of these funds  
69 may be invested in the creation of non-congregate shelters as part of a transition to permanent  
70 supportive housing or as a small component of emergency units within a supportive housing  
71 project \$150,000,000

72 Federal COVID-19 Response Fund .....100%

73           1599-2024   For a reserve to rehabilitate and modernize state-aided public housing  
74   developments through the funding of infrastructure improvements undertaken pursuant to clause  
75   (j) of section 26 of chapter 121B of the General Laws; provided, that for contracts entered into  
76   by the department of housing and community development for projects, funding may be  
77   expended for projects: (i) to replace existing failed and beyond useful-life sewer lines, water  
78   lines, heating lines, electrical lines and transformers; (ii) to address failing and unsafe zoned fire  
79   alarm systems with addressable systems; (iii) to complete approved projects underfunded due to  
80   code triggers and construction multi-phasing; (iv) that were requested based on approved  
81   formula funding figures delayed due to increased costs due to the 2019 novel coronavirus  
82   pandemic; and (v) to mitigate issues relating to flooding and climate  
83   hazards.....\$150,000,000

84                           Federal COVID-19 Response Fund .....100%

85           1599-2026   For a reserve for cultural assets; provided, that funds shall be administered  
86   by the Massachusetts cultural council to develop and oversee a grant program in order to assist  
87   cultural organizations and artists operate more efficiently; provided further, that grants may  
88   support staffing, consultants, plans, software and hardware for organizational business  
89   development for facilities owned by municipalities or non-profit entities with negative economic  
90   impacts of the 2019 novel coronavirus pandemic; provided further, that funds may be expended  
91   for entities that focus on 1 or more minority population or conduct cultural events that have  
92   cultural education or cultural performances related to minority populations; provided further, that  
93   the administration of said grants shall prioritize entities that have been adversely affected by the  
94   2019 novel coronavirus pandemic; provided further, that funds may be transferred to the  
95   Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Fund established in section 42 of chapter 23G of the General

96 Laws for the purposes of this item; and provided further, that grants may include a requirement  
97 for matching funds.....\$125,000,000

98 Federal COVID-19 Response Fund .....100%

99 1599-2027 For a reserve to enhance workforce opportunities through workforce skills  
100 training; provided, that priority shall be given to workers dislocated from the workforce during  
101 the 2019 novel coronavirus pandemic through layoffs, interruptions to educational opportunities  
102 or other economic disruptions; provided further, that funds may be expended for apprenticeship  
103 programs for low-income workers; provided further, that funds may be expended to issue  
104 competitive contracting models to support the start-up and implementation of expanded models  
105 such as career technical institutes, rapid reemployment contracting, learn-to-earn and additional  
106 models intended to enhance workforce opportunities; provided further, that programs may utilize  
107 performance-based contracts; provided further, that funds may be expended for adult basic  
108 education skills including, but not limited to, training for English for speakers of other  
109 languages; provided further, that funds may be expended for regional planning grants and  
110 equipment grants to support the implementation of data and accountability systems for enhanced  
111 oversight and management; and provided further, that funds may be expended to build and  
112 strengthen system capacity.....\$150,000,000

113 1599-2028 For a reserve for behavioral health and substance use disorder treatment  
114 services; provided, that funds shall be transferred to the executive office of health and human  
115 services and departments within the health and human services secretariat as directed by the  
116 secretary of administration and finance in consultation with the secretary of health and human  
117 services; and provided further, not less than \$100,000,000 shall be expended for workforce

118 development for programs including, but not limited to, student loan debt repayment, tuition  
119 reimbursement, certification programs and additional training.....\$250,000,000

120           1599-2029     For a reserve for fiscally strained hospitals in municipalities  
121 disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic; provided, that \$250,000,000 shall be  
122 expended to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Hospital Relief Trust Fund established in  
123 section 67 to provide support to eligible hospitals and affiliated healthcare providers; provided  
124 further, that not less than \$20,000,000 shall be expended for grants to community health centers  
125 to update and improve electronic health record systems to be administered by the executive  
126 office of health and human services .....\$270,000,000

127                               Federal COVID-19 Response Fund .....100%

128           1599-2030     For a reserve for investments in publicly-owned lands and lands otherwise  
129 protected and conserved for public access, reservations, parks, trails, rivers, lakes, ponds, streams  
130 and other waterways, trails, beaches, community gardens, urban farms, working farms and  
131 forests and other recreational facilities and open spaces; provided, that funds shall be transferred  
132 to the department of conservation and recreation for expenditure, including for land acquisition  
133 and creation of urban open space; provided further, that funds shall be expended to clean,  
134 enhance, improve and modernize park and trail facilities; provided further, that a portion of the  
135 funds shall be used for conservation and recreation grant programs, including, but not limited to,  
136 the local acquisition for natural diversity grant program, parkland acquisition and renovation for  
137 communities grant program, landscape partnership grant program and the MassTrails program;  
138 provided further, that significant funds shall be used to increase the cap on grants under the  
139 conservation partnership grant program to \$400,000 per project; provided further, that funds



140 shall be prioritized to increase and improve urban open space and trails with a preference for  
141 climate resilient projects designed to absorb heat and reduce flooding impacts, and to support  
142 environmental justice populations and those disproportionately impacted by the 2019 novel  
143 coronavirus pandemic; provided further, that funds may be expended to enhance, improve and  
144 modernize park facilities or other public or private facilities for outdoor recreation, to steward  
145 and conserve natural resources, and to improve the resilience of natural and working lands,  
146 plants and wildlife in the commonwealth; and provided further, that projects that increase and  
147 improve urban open space, particularly climate resilient projects designed to absorb heat and  
148 reduce flooding impacts, and that support environmental justice populations and those  
149 disproportionately impacted by the 2019 novel coronavirus pandemic shall be  
150 prioritized..... \$25,000,000

151 Federal COVID-19 Response Fund .....100%

152 1599-2031 For a reserve for environmental infrastructure; provided, that funds shall  
153 be expended for investments and grants which shall enable and facilitate statewide and local  
154 adaptation and resilience outcomes in low-income communities, environmental justice  
155 populations and urban communities, including nature-based solutions as defined in section 1 of  
156 chapter 21N of the General Laws; provided further, that funds may be transferred to the  
157 executive office of energy and environmental affairs, the department of fish and game, division  
158 of ecological restoration, division of marine fisheries, the office of coastal zone management and  
159 the department of conservation and recreation for expenditure; provided further, that regional  
160 municipal partnerships, regional planning bodies, watershed associations, non-profit corporations  
161 and other similar entities may serve as lawful grantees; provided further, that funds may be  
162 expended for protection of aquatic ecosystems and functions throughout the commonwealth

163 including, but not limited to, dam and barrier removal, instream improvements, flow, water  
164 quality, riverine habitat, protection of high quality riparian and wetland habitat, assessment and  
165 mitigation of threats from climate change and restoration of coastal areas; and provided further,  
166 that grants may include a requirement for matching funds.....\$100,000,000

167 Federal COVID-19 Response Fund .....100%

168 1599-2032 For a reserve for water and sewer infrastructure; provided, that funds shall  
169 be expended for sewer separation projects and other methods of remediating combined sewer  
170 overflow into waterways, including projects to improve water quality in the Merrimack river;  
171 provided further, that funds may be transferred to the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund  
172 established in section 18 of chapter 29C of the General Laws for the purpose of reducing the  
173 principal or interest costs of drinking water improvements under a program or programs  
174 administered under the umbrella of the Clean Water Trust; provided further, that funds may be  
175 transferred to the clean water state revolving loan fund described in section 7 of said chapter 29C  
176 for the purpose of reducing the principal or interest costs of water quality improvements under a  
177 program or programs administered under the umbrella of the Clean Water Trust; provided  
178 further, that grants may include a requirement for matching funds; and provided further, that  
179 projects that support environmental justice populations and those disproportionately impacted by  
180 the 2019 novel coronavirus pandemic shall be prioritized.....\$100,000,000

181 Federal COVID-19 Response Fund .....100%

182 1599-2033 For a reserve to close the digital divide by facilitating broadband and  
183 internet access; provided, that funds from this item shall be expended to the Broadband

184 Innovation Fund established in section 35QQQ of chapter 10 of the General  
 185 Laws.....\$50,000,000  
 186  
 Federal COVID-19 Response Fund .....100%  
 187  
 1599-2034 For a reserve for offshore wind and port infrastructure development;  
 188 provided, that the funds from this item shall be expended to the Massachusetts Offshore Wind  
 189 Industry Investment Fund established in section 9A of chapter 23J of the General Laws; provided  
 190 further, that the funds shall be used for port infrastructure development and revitalization in port  
 191 areas with the potential to facilitate economic development activity and support for the offshore  
 192 wind industry.....\$100,000,000  
 193  
 1599-2035 For a reserve for a forestry and tree planting greening program for projects  
 194 throughout the commonwealth on publicly-owned land and land owned by non-profit  
 195 organizations, including, but not limited to, the evaluation and planning of forestry and tree  
 196 greening projects, tree stock and planting and the care and protection of trees and forests;  
 197 provided, that funding shall prioritize projects for gateway cities, environmental justice  
 198 populations, urban and suburban neighborhoods without adequate tree cover, floodplains and  
 199 riparian areas, areas devastated by catastrophic weather events or widespread insect infestation  
 200 or in area locations of aquifers, recharge areas, wells, reservoirs and other water bodies that shall  
 201 improve water quality as part of a natural ecosystem; and provided further, that the secretary  
 202 shall provide guidance for planning, prioritization, selection and implementation of projects in  
 203 furtherance of climate change resilience and adaptation goals, and consistent with the integrated  
 204 state hazard mitigation and climate change adaptation plan and the state clean energy and climate  
 205 plan.....\$25,000,000

206 Federal COVID-19 Response Fund .....100%

207 1599-2036 For a reserve for a youth-at-risk program targeted at reducing juvenile

208 delinquency in high-risk areas and reducing gun violence; provided, that the secretary of

209 administration and finance shall transfer \$40,000,000 from this item to item 7002-0012 for the

210 summer job programs and other youth-at-risk employment programs in response to increased

211 economic insecurity as a result of the 2019 novel coronavirus pandemic; provided further, that

212 not less than \$10,000,000 shall be transferred from this item to item 4000-0005 for community-

213 based gun violence prevention and intervention programs; provided further, that not less than

214 \$15,000,000 shall be expended for re-entry programs, to be administered in conjunction with the

215 department of public health and the department of corrections, that prioritize individuals who

216 returned to the community from a state prison or county correctional facility during the

217 governor’s March 10, 2020 declaration of a state of emergency.....\$65,000,000

218 Federal COVID-19 Response Fund .....100%

219 1599-2037 For a reserve for additional funding for educational needs; provided, that not

220 less than \$10,000,000 shall be expended for grants distributed by and for the Alliance of

221 Massachusetts YMCAs, Inc. for workforce development and capital improvements to YMCA

222 buildings and camps; provided further, that funds for capital improvements shall be distributed

223 based on the size of the project and the project’s community impact; provided further, that

224 alliance staff and the department of housing and community development shall determine the

225 distribution of funds; provided further, that YMCAs shall have a specified percentage of funding

226 secured prior to applying for capital grants; provided further, that not less than \$10,000,000 shall

227 be expended for the Massachusetts Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs, Inc.; provided further, that

228 not less than \$10,000,000 shall be transferred from this item to item 7061-0012 for compensatory  
229 services for adults that reached age 22 during the 2019 novel coronavirus pandemic; provided  
230 further, that not less than \$100,000,000 shall be expended for the capital needs of existing  
231 vocational and career and technical schools; provided further, that not less than \$25,000,000  
232 shall be transferred from this item to item 7066-0115 for continuing the implementation of  
233 section 15E of chapter 15A of the General Laws to encourage private fundraising by the  
234 commonwealth's public institutions of higher education for the endowments and capital outlay  
235 programs of those institutions, including, but not limited to, endowed scholarship funds,  
236 endowed professorships, endowed STEM programming, endowed research positions, endowed  
237 programming in the arts and humanities, endowed funds to increase diversity and inclusion on  
238 public higher education campuses, endowed funds that increase persistence and completion rates,  
239 endowed funds that encourage innovative financial aid strategies, including income share  
240 arrangements, endowed early college programs and such other purposes as the board shall  
241 determine to be consistent with system-wide and campus mission statements, and with  
242 measurable goals and metrics tied to those missions; provided further, that the board of higher  
243 education shall implement said program in a manner that ensures that each institution shall have  
244 an equal opportunity to secure matching funds from this item; provided further, that of  
245 endowment funds not less than \$15,000,000 shall be allocated to the University of  
246 Massachusetts; provided further, that of endowment funds not less than \$5,000,000 shall be  
247 allocated to state universities; provided further, that of endowment funds not less than  
248 \$5,000,000 shall be allocated to community colleges; provided further, that not less than  
249 \$30,000,000 shall be transferred to item 7066-1400 for the mitigation of the financial impacts of  
250 the 2019 novel coronavirus pandemic and maintenance projects for state universities; provided

251 further, that not less than \$30,000,000 shall be transferred to item 7100-0200 for the mitigation  
 252 of the financial impacts of the 2019 novel coronavirus pandemic and maintenance projects for  
 253 the University of Massachusetts; provided further, that not less than \$15,000,000 shall be  
 254 transferred to item 7100-4000 for the mitigation of the financial impacts of the 2019 novel  
 255 coronavirus pandemic and maintenance projects for community colleges; provided further, that  
 256 not less than \$10,000,000 shall be expended for grants to Massachusetts approved special  
 257 education schools to address the workforce impacts of the 2019 novel coronavirus pandemic;  
 258 provided further, that not less than \$15,000,000 shall be expended for community colleges to  
 259 administer a high demand workforce training program for in-demand fields including, but not  
 260 limited to, healthcare, early education, advanced manufacturing, IT and cybersecurity; provided  
 261 further, that community colleges shall work directly with regional workforce boards to identify  
 262 workforce needs; and provided further, that not less than \$10,000,000 shall be transferred from  
 263 this item to item 7010-0005 for programs focused on recruiting and retaining black, indigenous  
 264 and other educators of color including, but not limited to, Influence 100, the Teacher Diversity  
 265 and Professional Learning Community, the InSPIRED Statewide Affinity Network and  
 266 InSPIRED fellowships.....\$265,000,000

267 Federal COVID-19 Response Fund .....100%

268 1599-2038 For a reserve for investments in local and regional public health systems;  
 269 provided, that funds shall be transferred to the executive office of health and human services and  
 270 the department of public health; provided further, that funding shall prioritize projects to address  
 271 health disparities, workforce development and training and the enhancement of public health  
 272 data systems; and provided further, that funds shall be made available for this purpose until June  
 273 30, 2024.....\$150,000,000

274 Federal COVID-19 Response Fund .....100%

275 1599-2039 For a reserve for investments in nursing facilities; provided, that funds shall

276 be transferred to the executive office of health and human services and the executive office of

277 elder affairs; provided further, that not less than \$30,000,000 shall be expended for projects to

278 improve, modernize and update facilities; and provided further, that not less than \$40,000,000

279 shall be expended for initiatives to address the workforce shortages that resulted from the 2019

280 novel coronavirus pandemic.....\$70,000,000

281 Federal COVID-19 Response Fund .....100%

282 1599-3000 For a reserve to support businesses impacted by the 2019 novel coronavirus

283 pandemic; provided, that not less than \$50,000,000 shall be transferred to the Massachusetts

284 Growth Capital Corporation established in chapter 40W of the General Laws for grants to

285 support small businesses negatively impacted by the 2019 novel coronavirus pandemic; provided

286 further, that not less than \$25,000,000 shall be expended for grants to businesses that did not

287 qualify for previous grants due to a lack of revenue loss in calendar year 2020; provided further,

288 that eligible grant applicants shall have not more than 50 employees; provided further, that grants

289 may be used for employee payroll and benefit costs, mortgage interest, rent, utilities and interest

290 on other debt obligations; and provided further, that not less than \$25,000,000 shall be expended

291 for grants to: (i) businesses that focus on reaching underserved markets; and (ii) minority-owned,

292 women-owned and veteran-owned businesses.....\$50,000,000

293 Federal COVID-19 Response Fund .....100%

294 1599-3002 For a reserve to address food insecurity; provided, that not less than

295 \$78,000,000 shall be expended for food security infrastructure grants.....\$78,000,000

296           1599-3003   For a reserve for the inspector general’s office for the purpose of tracking  
297   the expenditure of federal 2019 novel coronavirus pandemic related funds; provided, that funds  
298   shall be expended to create a public database and website to track the percentage of funds from  
299   the federal COVID-19 response fund, established in section 2JJJJ of chapter 29 of the General  
300   Laws, spent in communities that were disproportionately impacted by the 2019 novel coronavirus  
301   pandemic and the number of projects awarded to minority owned businesses and  
302   organizations.....\$5,000,000

303                           Federal COVID-19 Response Fund .....100%

304           1599-3004   For a reserve for grants to public school districts to address inequitable  
305   school facilities needs and repairs for improved ventilation and indoor air-quality to support  
306   healthy learning environments in districts and schools with high concentrations of economically  
307   disadvantaged students, English language learners and communities disproportionately impacted  
308   by the 2019 novel coronavirus pandemic; provided, that the department shall consult with the  
309   racial imbalance advisory council established pursuant to section 1G of chapter 15 of the General  
310   Laws on the development of the grant application; provided further, that not less than  
311   \$100,000,000 shall be transferred to the department of elementary and secondary education for  
312   the planning and administration of said grants; provided further, that grants shall be made  
313   available to cover the cost of inspections, maintenance, installation, repairs or upgrades for  
314   heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and other needs and repairs approved by the department of  
315   elementary and secondary education for the purpose of improving school air-quality, including,  
316   but not limited to, recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and  
317   the Environmental Protection Agency; provided further, that grants awarded by the department  
318   shall maximize the total number of projects that shall be undertaken by public school districts;



provided further, that such inspections, maintenance, installation, repairs or upgrades for heating, ventilation, air conditioning and other needs and repairs shall be conducted in compliance with any relevant procurements laws including chapter 149 of the General Laws and all state and local building codes; provided further, that grants shall be distributed not later than January 1, 2022; and provided further, that not later than March 1, 2022, the department shall report to the joint committee on education and the house and senate committees on ways and means on the grants awarded to schools and include its analysis and recommendations based on the grant program's findings.....\$100,000,000

Federal COVID-19 Response Fund .....100%

1599-4500 For a reserve to support 1-time payments not to exceed \$2,000 to front-line state employees required to work in-person during the winter of 2020 to 2021; provided, that the secretary of administration and finance may authorize the transfer of funds from this account to other accounts to meet the projected costs \$40,000,000

Federal COVID-19 Response Fund .....100%

SECTION 3. Section 35FF of chapter 10 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2020 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out, in lines 72 and 73, the words "section 45 of chapter 75" and inserting in place thereof the following words:- section 12 of chapter 40G.

SECTION 4. Said chapter 10 is hereby further amended by inserting after section 35PPP the following section:-

Section 35QQQ. (a) There shall be established and set up on the books of the commonwealth a separate fund known as the Broadband Innovation Fund to be administered by

the secretary of housing and economic development. There shall be credited to the fund: (i) revenue from appropriations or other money authorized by the general court and specifically designated to be credited to the fund; (ii) interest earned on such revenues; and (iii) funds from public and private sources including gifts, grants and donations. Any unexpended balance in the fund at the end of a fiscal year shall not revert to the General Fund and shall remain available for expenditure in subsequent fiscal years. No expenditure made from the fund shall cause the fund to become deficient at any point. Any fiscal year-end balance in the fund that is subject to appropriation shall not be subject to section 5C of chapter 29.

(b) Subject to appropriation, the secretary shall make expenditures from the fund for the purposes of:

(i) closing the digital divide by facilitating equitable broadband service adoption in unserved and underserved communities;

(ii) expanding digital literacy for residents experiencing economic hardship including, but not limited to, persons eligible for the temporary assistance for needy families program, the federal supplemental nutrition assistance program, and those whose household include a child who is eligible for free or reduced price lunch; provided, that priority shall be given to programming for existing regional partners and public libraries; and

(iii) empowering communities to use digital tools through the provision of devices, connectivity and training to low-income populations.

SECTION 5. Subsection (l) of section 8 of chapter 15D of the General Laws, as appearing in section 4 of chapter 29 of the acts of 2021, is hereby amended by striking out the words "fingerprint background check service fee charged by the Federal Bureau of

Investigation” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- actual costs for the processing and administration of the fingerprint background check.

SECTION 6. Section 5 of chapter 21E of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2020 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding the following paragraph:-

(m) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, the commonwealth shall not be liable under this chapter for response actions taken or arranged by the department at any time for the purpose of implementing or enforcing the commonwealth’s rights or responsibilities pursuant to this chapter.

SECTION 7. Section 10B of chapter 23A of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out, in lines 17 and 18, the words “executive director of the Massachusetts Technology Transfer Center” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- president of the Massachusetts Technology Development Corporation.

SECTION 8. Section 56 of said chapter 23A, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 37, the words “chapter 75” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- section 12 of chapter 40G.

SECTION 9. Section 27 of chapter 23G of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 73, the words “45 of chapter 75” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- 12 of chapter 40G.

SECTION 10. The first paragraph of subsection (a) of section 28 of said chapter 23G, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out the last sentence.

SECTION 11. Section 6 of chapter 23I of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out, in lines 106 and 107, the words “45 of chapter 75” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- 12 of chapter 40G.

SECTION 12. Section 12 of said chapter 23I, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out, in lines 10 and 11, the words “executive director of the Massachusetts Technology Transfer Center and” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- president of the Massachusetts Technology Development Corporation or the president’s designee.

SECTION 13. Chapter 23J of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 9 the following section:-

Section 9A. There shall be established and placed within the center a fund to be known as the Massachusetts Offshore Wind Industry Investment Fund to be held by the center separate and apart from its other funds. The fund shall be credited with any appropriations, bond proceeds or other monies authorized by the general court and specifically designated to be credited thereto. All available monies in the fund that are unexpended at the end of each fiscal year shall not revert to the General Fund and shall be available for expenditure in the subsequent fiscal year.

SECTION 14. Section 2DDDDD of chapter 29 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2020 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the word “expended”, in line 15, the following words:- by the state fire marshal as the head of the department of fire services, who shall act as co-administrator,.

SECTION 15. The second paragraph of said section 2DDDDD of said chapter 29, as so appearing, is hereby amended by adding the following sentence:- The department of fire services shall assist the technical rescue coordinating council established pursuant to said section 6 of said

chapter 22D with the administration of the fund, including, but not limited to, the collection and expenditure of amounts for the purposes set forth in this paragraph.

SECTION 16. Section 64 of said chapter 29, as so appearing, is hereby amended by adding the following paragraph:-

The state treasurer, on behalf of the commonwealth's deferred compensation program, may adopt annual budgets and supplemental budgets as necessary. Said budgets may include salaries for treasury employees working on or administering the commonwealth's deferred compensation program; provided, that said budgets may be funded from the administrative expense account of the commonwealth's deferred compensation program. Any such treasury employee whose compensation is sourced from the commonwealth's deferred compensation program shall be an "employee" as defined in section 1 of chapter 32 and shall be a member of the state employees' retirement system.

SECTION 17. Section 6A of chapter 31 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out, in lines 20 to 41, inclusive, the third paragraph and inserting in place thereof the following paragraph:-

Such evaluation system shall include, but not be limited to, the following general provisions:

(1) All performance evaluations may be in writing or a printable electronic format and shall be maintained as part of the employee's records by the employee's appointing authority until the employee leaves civil service employment or as otherwise prescribed by the administrator.

(2) Prior to each evaluation period, the immediate supervisor shall inform the employee of the general performance dimensions and the procedures to be utilized in evaluating the employee's performance. The supervisor shall also inform the employee that the evaluation may be utilized by the department or the appointing authority in future personnel determinations.

(3) After the evaluation has been conducted, the immediate supervisor shall confer with the employee concerning the evaluation. Upon the completion of the employee's review of the evaluation, the employee shall acknowledge receipt of the evaluation and indicate whether the employee agrees or disagrees with the evaluation. Upon request, the employee or, with the employee's consent, the employee's collective bargaining agent, may be provided a copy of the evaluation.

SECTION 18. Section 67A of chapter 33 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by inserting after the word "action", in line 5, the following words:- or died as a result of a training accident in the line of duty.

SECTION 19. Section 1 of chapter 40G of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by inserting after the definition of "Board" the following definition:-

"Center" or "MTTC", the Massachusetts Technology Transfer Center established in section 12.

SECTION 20. Said chapter 40G is hereby further amended by inserting after section 4B the following section:-

Section 4C. The center shall administer the Innovation Commercialization Seed Fund established in section 45B of chapter 75.

SECTION 21. Said chapter 40G is hereby further amended by adding the following section:-

Section 12. (a) There shall be within the corporation, and subject to the board's oversight and control, a Massachusetts Technology Transfer Center to facilitate the transfer of technology from the commonwealth's research institutions to the commonwealth's industries, for productive use by such industries. Said center shall provide advice and assistance to public and private research institutions on strategies for technology transfer including, but not limited to, advice and assistance in the following areas: (i) assessing the viability and value of developing technologies; (ii) defining and exploiting potential markets for such technologies; (iii) commercialization strategies; (iv) intellectual property issues, including licensing strategies; and (v) business development. The center shall be governed by the board and subject to the board's oversight and control. The president of the corporation may hire such staff as may be necessary to accomplish purposes of the center.

(b) The corporation shall report annually to the Massachusetts office of business development on the number of technology transfer transactions or projects that have been consummated with the assistance of the center, the names and geographic locations of the recipient industries and the estimated number of new jobs created as a result of such transactions or projects.

SECTION 22. Section 20 of chapter 44 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2020 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out the fifth sentence and inserting in place thereof the following 3 sentences:-

Any premium received upon the sale of notes, less the cost of preparing, issuing and marketing the notes, and any accrued interest received upon the delivery of the notes, shall be applied to the first payment of interest on the note. Any premium received upon the sale of bonds, less the cost of preparing, issuing and marketing the bonds, and any accrued interest received upon the delivery of bonds shall be: (i) in the case of bonds sold by a city or town that have been excluded under section 21C of chapter 59, or bonds sold by a regional school district for which 1 or more member cities or towns have so excluded their share of the bond, applied by the treasurer to pay costs of the project being financed by the bonds and to reduce the amount authorized to be borrowed for the project by like amount; or (ii) in the case of any other bonds, applied by the treasurer to pay costs of the project being financed by the bonds and to reduce the amount authorized to be borrowed for the project by like amount; or if not so applied, appropriated to pay costs of a project for which the city, town or district has authorized a borrowing, or may authorize a borrowing. Notwithstanding this section, any premium and accrued interest received on account of an issue of bonds, less the cost of preparing, issuing and marketing the bonds, not in excess of \$50,000 may be applied, with the approval of the chief executive officer in a city or town, for the payment of indebtedness.

SECTION 23. Section 28A of said chapter 44, as so appearing, is hereby amended by inserting after the word “notes”, in line 5, the following words:- , the provisions of section 21C relating to lease purchase financing agreements.

SECTION 24. Section 31 of said chapter 44, as so appearing, is hereby amended by inserting after the word “section”, in line 14, the following words:- for such an emergency.



488           SECTION 25. Said section 31 of said chapter 44, as so appearing, is hereby further  
489 amended by striking out, in lines 39 and 40, the words “judgments, awards or payments” and  
490 inserting in place thereof the following words:- judgments, which shall mean final awards or  
491 payments,.

492           SECTION 26. Said section 31 of said chapter 44, as so appearing, is hereby further  
493 amended by striking out, in line 42, the word “council” and inserting in place thereof the  
494 following word:- counsel.

495           SECTION 27. Said section 31 of said chapter 44, as so appearing, is hereby further  
496 amended by striking out, in line 49, the words “otherwise made provision therefor” and inserting  
497 in place thereof the following words:- made provision therefor by borrowing under section 7 or  
498 otherwise.

499           SECTION 28. Section 63 of said chapter 44, as so appearing, is hereby amended by  
500 striking out, in line 11, the words “clause (3) of section seven” and inserting in place thereof the  
501 following words:- section 7 to purchase land, or interests in land, or to construct or enlarge  
502 buildings, including the cost of original equipment and furnishings of the buildings or  
503 enlargements.

504           SECTION 29. Section 18 of chapter 59 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby  
505 amended by striking out, in line 71, the words “an executor or administrator” and inserting in  
506 place thereof the following words:- a personal representative.

507           SECTION 30. Said section 18 of said chapter 59, as so appearing, is hereby further  
508 amended by striking out, in lines 72 and 73, the words “executor or administrator” and inserting  
509 in place thereof the following words:- personal representative.

SECTION 31. Section 2A of chapter 61A of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 6, the figure “25” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- 25A.

SECTION 32. Subsection (x) of section 6 of chapter 62 of the General Laws, as added by section 29 of chapter 24 of the acts of 2021, is hereby amended by inserting after the first sentence the following 2 sentences:- With respect to a taxpayer who is a nonresident for part of the taxable year, the credit shall be further limited to the amount of allowable credit multiplied by a fraction, the numerator of which shall be the number of days in the taxable year the person resided in the commonwealth and the denominator of which shall be the number of days in the taxable year. A person who is a nonresident for the entire taxable year shall not be allowed the credit.

SECTION 33. The last sentence of said subsection (x) of said section 6 of said chapter 62, as so added, is hereby amended by inserting after the word “excess”, the second time it appears, the following words:- without interest.

SECTION 34. Subsection (y) of said section 6 of said chapter 62, as so added, is hereby amended by inserting after the first sentence the following 2 sentences:- With respect to a taxpayer who is a nonresident for part of the taxable year, the credit shall be further limited to the amount of allowable credit multiplied by a fraction, the numerator of which shall be the number of days in the taxable year the person resided in the commonwealth and the denominator of which shall be the number of days in the taxable year. A person who is a nonresident for the entire taxable year shall not be allowed the credit.

SECTION 35. The last sentence of said subsection (y) of said section 6 of said chapter 62, as so added, is hereby amended by inserting after the word “excess”, the second time it appears, the following words:- without interest.

SECTION 36. Chapter 75 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out section 45, as appearing in the 2020 Official Edition, and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

Section 45 ½. There shall be within the McCormack graduate school of policy and global studies at the University of Massachusetts, the Edward J. Collins, Jr. center for public management. The center shall analyze and study economic trends in the commonwealth and shall provide its analysis to elected officials. The center shall continuously research and inform elected officials on the following subject areas:

(1) the effectiveness of the commonwealth’s economic development incentive programs including, but not limited to, tax credits, loan and matching grant programs;

(2) job creation programs;

(3) tax policy;

(4) workforce training and development programs; and

(5) the regional and national competitiveness of the state’s economy.

The center shall work with existing research entities within the University of Massachusetts system and other public agencies to prepare timely analysis of the economy of the commonwealth and other economic indicators.

551           SECTION 37. Section 45A of said chapter 75 of the General Laws is hereby repealed.

552           SECTION 38. Section 45B of said chapter 75 of the General Laws, as appearing in the  
553 2020 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 7, the words “section 45” and  
554 inserting in place thereof the following words:- section 12 of chapter 40G.

555           SECTION 39. Section 7E of chapter 90 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby  
556 amended by inserting after the word “buses”, in line 3, the following words:- , emergency  
557 vehicles operated by the department of fire services.

558           SECTION 40. Said section 7E of said chapter 90, as so appearing, is hereby further  
559 amended by inserting after the word “service”, in line 17, the following words:- or full-time  
560 employees or contract employees employed by or under contract to the department of fire  
561 services.

562           SECTION 41. Section 37 of chapter 130 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby  
563 amended by striking out the third paragraph.

564           SECTION 42. Section 42 of chapter 132 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby  
565 amended by striking out, in lines 3 and 4, the words “by certified mail or hand deliver” and  
566 inserting in place thereof the following words:- in accordance with guidelines posted by the  
567 department.

568           SECTION 43. Said section 42 of said chapter 132, as so appearing, is hereby further  
569 amended by striking out, in lines 8 and 9, the words “by certified mail or hand deliver,” and  
570 inserting in place thereof the following words:- in accordance with guidelines posted by the  
571 department.

SECTION 44. Section 21 of chapter 218 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 9, the words “or an” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- in any amount or any other.

SECTION 45. Said section 21 of said chapter 218, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by striking out, in lines 43 and 44, the words “or an action by a city or town which shall not exceed \$15,000” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- in any amount or any other action by a city or town which shall not exceed \$15,000 or an action.

SECTION 46. Section 2 of chapter 112 of the acts of 2018 is hereby amended by striking out the figure “7002-0015” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- 7002-0016.

SECTION 47. Section 11 of said chapter 112 is hereby amended by striking out the figure “7002-0015” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- 7002-0016.

SECTION 48. Section 2 of chapter 209 of the acts of 2018 is hereby amended by striking out the figure “2800-7031” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- 2800-7033.

SECTION 49. Section 2C of said chapter 209 is hereby amended by striking out the figure “2000-7061” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- 2000-7065.

SECTION 50. Section 85 of said chapter 209 is hereby amended by striking out the figure “2800-7031” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- 2800-7033.

SECTION 51. Said section 85 of said chapter 209 is hereby further amended by striking out the figure “2000-7061” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- 2800-7065.

591           SECTION 52. Section 2A of chapter 228 of the acts of 2018 is hereby amended by  
592 striking out the figure “6720-1351” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- 7002-  
593 1351.

594           SECTION 53. Said section 2A of said chapter 228 is hereby further amended by striking  
595 out the figure “7002-1501” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- 7002-1521.

596           SECTION 54. Said section 2A of said chapter 228 is hereby further amended by striking  
597 out the figure “7002-8006” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- 7002-8024.

598           SECTION 55. Said section 2A of said chapter 228 is hereby further amended by striking  
599 out the figure “7002-8007” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- 7002-8025.

600           SECTION 56. Said section 2A of said chapter 228 is hereby further amended by striking  
601 out the figure “7002-8019” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- 7002-8026.

602           SECTION 57. Section 2B of said chapter 228 is hereby amended by striking out the  
603 figure “7009-2005” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- 7009-2007.

604           SECTION 58. Said section 2B of said chapter 228 is hereby further amended by striking  
605 out the figure “0640-0302” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- 0640-0304.

606           SECTION 59. Subsection (b) of section 103 of chapter 253 of the acts of 2020 is hereby  
607 amended by striking out the words “by the chief justice of the supreme judicial court” and  
608 inserting in place thereof the following words:- jointly by the governor and attorney general.

609           SECTION 60. Section 2A of chapter 358 of the acts of 2020 is hereby amended by  
610 striking out the figure “0640-0304” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- 0640-  
611 0306.

612           SECTION 61. Subsection (b) of section 93 of said chapter 358 is hereby amended by  
613 striking out the words “the chairs of the joint committee on community development and small  
614 business, who shall serve as co-chairs; 1 member of the house of representatives appointed by  
615 the speaker; 1 member of the senate appointed by the senate president” and inserting in place  
616 thereof the following words:- 2 members of the house of representatives, appointed by the  
617 speaker of the house of representatives, 1 of whom shall serve as co-chair; the senate chair of the  
618 joint committee on community development and small businesses, who shall serve as co-chair; 1  
619 member of the senate appointed by the senate president.

620           SECTION 62. Section 2 of chapter 24 of the acts of 2021 is hereby amended by inserting  
621 after item 1599-7106 the following item:-

622           1599-9817     For a reserve to enhance, expand and strengthen Medicaid home and  
623 community-based services; provided, that the secretary of administration and finance, in  
624 consultation with the secretary of health and human services, may transfer funds from this item  
625 to state agencies as defined under section 1 of chapter 29 of the General Laws.....\$300,000,000

626           Home and Community-Based Services Federal Investment Fund.....100%

627           SECTION 63. Item 4000-0300 of said section 2 of said chapter 24 is hereby amended by  
628 inserting after the word “disorder”, the fourth time it appears, the following words:- ; provided  
629 further, that not less than \$300,000 shall be expended for the operation of the special legislative  
630 commission to study poverty in the commonwealth as established in chapter 74 of the acts of  
631 2021, for expenses including, but not limited to, costs related to personnel, research, public  
632 hearings and forums and document preparation.

SECTION 64. Item 4003-0122 of said section 2 of said chapter 24 is hereby amended by inserting after the word “adults”, the second time it appears, the following words:- ; provided further, that not less than \$12,000,000 shall be expended for the resettlement agencies in the commonwealth set forth herein that contract with the U.S. Department of State to resettle refugees and immigrants, to support the evacuees of the crisis in Afghanistan; provided further, that not less than \$5,000 shall be allocated per Afghan arrival to each agency through the office for refugees and immigrants, within 30 days of the agreement each agency signs with a national voluntary agency to receive Afghan parolees in the commonwealth, of which up to 75 per cent shall be spent on direct assistance for the individual, at the discretion of the agency, and 25 per cent shall be to support the infrastructure of the resettlement agencies; provided further, that not less than \$4,500,000 of said funds shall be allocated to the resettlement agencies to assist humanitarian parolees from Afghanistan with obtaining a secure immigration status in the United States.

SECTION 65. There shall be established and set up on the books of the commonwealth a separate fund known as the Home and Community-Based Services Federal Investment Fund. The fund shall be credited with an amount equal to the amount of federal financial participation received by the commonwealth pursuant to section 9817 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, P.L. 117-2, hereinafter “ARPA”. Amounts credited to the fund shall be expended, subject to appropriation, to support: (i) the home and community-based services workforce; (ii) access to and promotion of home and community-based services and supports; and (iii) home and community-based services technology and infrastructure. Expenditures from the fund shall be governed by requirements established in ARPA and any guidance related to ARPA issued by the



655 federal government. The fund shall not be subject to section 5C of chapter 29 of the General  
656 Laws.

657 SECTION 66. There shall be established a fund known as the COVID-19 Essential  
658 Employee Premium Pay Fund to be administered by the executive office for administration and  
659 finance. The purpose of the fund shall be to issue direct financial support to eligible essential  
660 workers for in-person work performed during the state of emergency declared by the governor on  
661 March 10, 2020. There shall be credited to the fund all amounts that are transferred or authorized  
662 to be transferred thereto or directed to be deposited therein, and all amounts received as gifts,  
663 grants or contributions for the purposes of the fund. Amounts credited to the fund shall not be  
664 subject to appropriation and any money remaining in the fund shall not revert to the General  
665 Fund.

666 SECTION 67. (a) There shall be a COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Hospital Relief  
667 Trust Fund to provide financial support to eligible hospitals and affiliated hospital health care  
668 providers to be administered by the secretary of health and human services. Amounts credited to  
669 the fund shall be expended, without further appropriation, by the secretary of health and human  
670 services, as trustee, consistent with this section. The fund shall be credited with money from item  
671 1599-2029 and public and private sources, including gifts, grants and donations, interest earned  
672 on such money, any other money authorized by the general court and specifically designated to  
673 be credited to the fund and any funds provided from other sources.

674 (b) The secretary may incur expenses, and the comptroller may certify amounts for  
675 payment in anticipation of expected receipts; provided, however, that no expenditure shall be  
676 made from the fund which shall cause the fund to be deficient at the close of a fiscal year.

Revenues deposited in the fund that are unexpended at the end of a fiscal year shall not revert to the General Fund and shall be available for expenditure in the following fiscal year.

(c) The secretary shall direct payments from the fund to eligible hospitals and affiliated hospital health care providers; provided, that not less than \$50,000,000 shall be dedicated to hospitals designated as community high public payer hospitals by the center for health information and analysis. Eligible hospitals shall be: (i) an acute hospital licensed under section 51 of chapter 111 of the General Laws; (ii) a nonpublic hospital licensed under said section 51 of said chapter 111, but shall not be defined as an acute-care hospital under section 25B of said chapter 111; or (iii) a nonpublic hospital licensed as an inpatient facility under section 19 of chapter 19 of the General Laws and regulations promulgated thereunder, but shall not be categorized as a Class VII licensee under 104 CMR 27. Affiliated hospital health care providers as defined by the center for health information and analysis shall be eligible to receive payment.

(d) All expenditures from the fund shall support hospitals and affiliated hospital health care providers to prevent, prepare for and respond to the 2019 novel coronavirus, also known as COVID-19. The secretary shall award grants to hospitals and affiliated health care providers through an application process. An application for a grant submitted by a hospital or hospital health system shall include, but not be limited to: (i) healthcare-related expenses or lost revenues that are attributable to COVID-19 for the hospital and affiliated health system providers; and (ii) amounts of funding used to support the hospital and affiliated health system providers that have served communities disproportionately affected by COVID-19 related to the public health emergency. A recipient shall certify that it shall not use any grant payment received to reimburse expenses or losses that have been reimbursed from another source or that another source is obligated to reimburse.

(e) To be eligible for a grant payment from the fund, a hospital or health system shall submit to the secretary of health and human services an application that includes a statement justifying the need for the grant payment for the hospital or affiliated health care providers. For any grant payment from the trust fund to an eligible hospital or affiliated health care providers for healthcare-related expenses or lost revenues that are attributable to COVID-19, such hospital or health system may calculate lost revenues using definitions consistent with the federal Provider Relief Fund established by the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, Public Law 116-136, and as further defined by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Expenses shall include, but not be limited to: (i) building or construction of temporary structures; (ii) leasing of properties; (iii) medical supplies and equipment, including, but not limited to, personal protective equipment and testing supplies; (iv) workforce and trainings; (v) emergency operation centers; (vi) retrofitting facilities; and (vii) surge capacity. For funding to support additional expenses and financial circumstances for providers disproportionately affected by COVID-19, the hospital or health system shall state the specific purpose of such funding and shall include a detailed description of its intended use.

(f) In reviewing grant applications, the secretary of health and human services shall consider lost revenues and increased expenses not reimbursed by the federal Provider Relief Fund in calendar years 2020, 2021 and 2022. In determining payments to support hospitals and affiliated healthcare providers serving communities disproportionately affected by COVID-19, the secretary shall consider: (i) the financial health of the qualified hospital and affiliation of the particular provider to a health care delivery system; (ii) public payer mix; (iii) geographic need; and (iv) population need.

(g) The executive office of health and human services shall promulgate rules or regulations necessary to carry out this section.

(h) Not later than 30 days after payments are allocated to hospitals and affiliated healthcare providers under this section, the secretary of health and human services shall file a report with the house and senate committees on ways and means and the joint committee on health care financing detailing the allocation and recipient of each payment.

SECTION 68. (a) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, in order to address disruptions caused by the outbreak of the 2019 novel coronavirus, also known as COVID-19, and the effects of the governor's March 10, 2020 declaration of a state of emergency, the executive office for administration and finance shall administer a COVID-19 Essential Employee Premium Pay program to provide direct financial support to essential workers, in an amount of not less than \$500 and not more than \$2,000, for each eligible essential worker. The executive office for administration and finance shall determine eligibility which shall include, but not be limited to, essential workers: (i) with a household income at or below 300 per cent of the federal poverty level as calculated by the United States Department of Health and Human Services; and (ii) who worked in person and not in a remote setting during the state of emergency declared by the governor on March 10, 2020.

(b) The executive office for administration and finance shall make a determination of eligibility for each essential worker and priority shall be given to low-income essential workers. Premium payments to eligible essential workers shall be issued not later than January 31, 2022. The executive office shall comply with all rules and guidance related to eligible uses of state and

local recovery funds under subsection (c) of section 602 of Title VI of the federal Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. 802.

SECTION 69. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, for any taxable year beginning on or after January 1, 2021, the following items shall be deducted from federal gross income for the purpose of determining Massachusetts gross income under section 2 of chapter 62 of the General Laws: (i) an amount which, but for this section, would be included in the gross income, in whole or in part, of an eligible recipient, as described in subsection (a) of section 1102 of the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, P.L. 116-136, because of the forgiveness described in subsection (b) of section 1106 of said federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, P.L. 116-136; (ii) an amount of an advance received pursuant to subsection (e) of section 1110 of said federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, P.L. 116-136; (iii) an amount of any payment described in subsection (c) of section 1112 of said federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, P.L. 116-136; (iv) an amount of funding received pursuant to section 331 of the federal Economic Aid to Hard-Hit Small Businesses, Nonprofits, and Venues Act, Title III of Division N of P.L. 116-260; (v) any grant made under section 324 of the Economic Aid to Hard-Hit Small Businesses, Nonprofits, and Venues Act, Title III of Division N of P.L. 116-260; and (vi) any amount received from the Administrator of the Small Business Administration in the form of a restaurant revitalization grant under section 5003 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, P.L. 117-2.

SECTION 70. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, for any taxable year beginning on or after January 1, 2021, any amount received from a small business relief program administered through the Massachusetts Growth Capital Corporation after March 10, 2020 for purposes of providing emergency COVID-19 relief, including grants and any portion of

a loan subsequently forgiven, shall be deducted from federal gross income for the purpose of determining Massachusetts gross income under section 2 of chapter 62 of the General Laws and from federal gross income for purposes of determining Massachusetts gross income under section 30 of chapter 63 of the General Laws.

SECTION 71. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, not later than 14 days after the effective date of this act, the secretary of administration and finance shall direct the comptroller to transfer \$460,000,000 from the federal COVID-19 response fund established in section 2JJJJ of chapter 29 of the General Laws to the COVID-19 Essential Employee Premium Pay Fund established in section 66.

SECTION 72. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the comptroller shall transfer the balance of Transitional Escrow Fund, established in section 16 of chapter 76 of the acts of 2021, to the General Fund.

SECTION 73. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, prior to transferring the funds in the Transitional Escrow Fund established in section 16 of chapter 76 of the acts of 2021 to the General Fund pursuant to section 72 the comptroller shall transfer: (i) an amount not more than \$10,000,000, to the Massachusetts Life Sciences Investment Fund established in section 6 of chapter 23I of the General Laws; and (ii) an amount not more than \$10,000,000, to the Massachusetts Community Preservation Trust Fund established in section 9 of chapter 44B of the General Laws.

SECTION 74. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, prior to transferring the funds in the Transitional Escrow Fund established in section 16 of chapter 76 of the acts of 2021 to the General Fund pursuant to section 72, the comptroller shall transfer up to

788 \$500,000,000 from the Transitional Escrow Fund established in section 16 of chapter 76 of the  
789 acts of 2021 to the Unemployment Compensation Fund established in section 48 of chapter 151A  
790 of the General Laws.

791 SECTION 75. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the special  
792 commission established in section 22 of chapter 132 of the acts of 2019 is hereby revived and  
793 continued to March 31, 2022. The special commission shall file its report and recommendations  
794 pursuant to subsection (c) of said section 22 of said chapter 132 with the clerks of the house of  
795 representatives and the senate, the chairs of the joint committee on education and the rural policy  
796 advisory commission not later than March 31, 2022.

797 SECTION 76. Section 62 shall take effect on July 1, 2021.