

HOUSE No. 4718

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, April 21, 2022.

The committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight to whom was referred the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3123) of Carol A. Doherty and others that the State Treasurer annually mail to resident taxpayers of the Commonwealth information on the federal and state budgets, reports recommending that the accompanying bill (House, No. 4718) ought to pass.

For the committee,

ANTONIO F. D. CABRAL.

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**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court
(2021-2022)**

An Act providing federal and state budget information to residents of the Commonwealth.

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. Chapter 10 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2018 Official Edition, is
2 hereby amended by adding the following new section:-

3 Section 79. The treasurer, in coordination with the secretary of the commonwealth, shall
4 provide a short summary each year to be published on the Secretary of Commonwealth's website
5 by March 15, which reports the total amount of income tax paid by Massachusetts residents to
6 the federal government in the prior year, together with the per cent of those dollars appropriated
7 in the prior year's Congressional discretionary budget to housing, education, healthcare, public
8 transit, biomedical research, veterans services, food stamps and assistance, environmental
9 protection, and defense spending, including nuclear weapons. The summary shall include this
10 information in the form of a pie chart or bar graph, and using the budget numbers reported by the
11 federal Congressional Budget Office. The summary shall also include information noting that
12 Medicare and Social Security programs are financed as trust funds and are not financed through
13 income taxes.

14 The summary shall also include a report on the commonwealth’s annual budget for the
15 prior fiscal year. The report shall communicate the per cent of the budget allocated to housing,
16 education, healthcare, public transit, criminal justice, veterans services, food stamps and
17 assistance, environmental protection, and conservation and recreation. The report shall also
18 include the contribution of federal funds being returned to Massachusetts in those categories. The
19 report shall include this information in the form of a pie chart or bar graph.

20 The information required under this section may be acquired from any nonpartisan, third-
21 party organization that regularly compiles such data; provided further, there may be an
22 agreement with such an organization to produce the report.