

**SENATE . . . . . No. 2828**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

—  
**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court  
(2021-2022)**  
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SENATE, April 14, 2022.

The committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight, to whom was referred the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2031) of Joanne M. Comerford, Erika Uytterhoeven and Jack Patrick Lewis for legislation to provide federal and state budget information to residents of the commonwealth, reports the accompanying bill (Senate, No. 2828).

For the committee,  
Marc R. Pacheco

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An Act advancing taxpayers' right to know.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 Chapter 10 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2018 Official Edition, is hereby  
2 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.