

HOUSE No. 4250

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

SO MUCH OF THE MESSAGE

FROM

HER EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR

RETURNING THE GENERAL APPROPRIATION BILL

FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026

(SEE HOUSE, NO. 4240)

AS RELATES TO ATTACHMENTS A THROUGH C,

FOR ITEMS RETURNED WITH REDUCTIONS

OR DISAPPROVALS OF WORDING

UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF

SECTION 5 OF ARTICLE LXIII

AND SECTIONS RETURNED WITH

RECOMMENDATIONS OF AMENDMENTS

UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE LVI

OF THE AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION.

July 4, 2025.

HOUSE No. 4250



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
STATE HOUSE · BOSTON, MA 02133
(617) 725-4000

MAURA T. HEALEY
GOVERNOR

KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

July 4, 2025

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives,

Pursuant to Section 5 of Article 63 of the Amendments to the Constitution, we are today signing H4240 “An Act Making Appropriations for the Fiscal Year 2026 for the Maintenance of the Departments, Boards, Commissions, Institutions, and Certain Activities of the Commonwealth, for Interest, Sinking Fund, and Serial Bond Requirements, and for Certain Permanent Improvements,” and returning certain portions to you for reconsideration.

Our administration is focused on and committed to making Massachusetts more affordable and competitive, growing our economy, creating jobs, improving transportation, and making sure everyone - from early childhood to adulthood -- has access to the best education in the world. Over our first two and half years in office, this has meant working with the Legislature to cut taxes for families, build more housing to lower costs, and expand access to affordable, high-quality child care. We have fully paid for the Student Opportunity Act to support our public schools, covered the cost of universal school meals and made community college cost-free. We have invested in the MBTA to make it safer and more reliable, grown our leadership in cutting-edge sectors like life sciences and applied AI, and renewed our focus on vocational and career training to put both our people and our businesses in a position to succeed.

This Fiscal Year 2026 budget continues that progress. It’s fiscally responsible, lowers costs, protects essential care and services, and moves the Massachusetts economy forward.

With President Trump and Congressional Republicans making drastic cuts to the services and programs that the people of Massachusetts rely on, there is significant economic uncertainty surrounding this budget. With that in mind, and following the leadership of the Legislature, this budget protects

taxpayer dollars and limits spending. I am vetoing \$130 million across 28 line-items, bringing this budget down to \$1 billion less than the H1 proposal. More details can be found in the attached line-item report.

This fiscal responsibility allows us to continue leading and doing what we know works – lowering costs, protecting essential care and services, and moving our economy forward by investing in housing, transportation and our schools.

With the help of our partners in the Legislature, we are continuing to support our schools and the Student Opportunity Act with full funding through Chapter 70 and increasing minimum per pupil aid to \$150 – a historic level. This budget maintains \$475 million for Commonwealth Cares for Children (C3) grants to support our child care providers, invests in early literacy and fully funds universal free school meals and free community college.

To make housing more affordable, we are eliminating broker fees for renters, saving them thousands of dollars every time they move.

This budget also continues our administration's track record of investing revenues from the Fair Share surtax in ways that maximize the return on our taxpayers' dollars to make transformative impacts on our education and transportation systems. The surtax continues to perform strongly. And while we know this budget spends \$2.4 billion in Fair Share revenue, which is higher than our original proposal, we also know that surtax collections in FY25 have already exceed that threshold. With Fair Share revenue, we are continuing to support literacy for our young learners through Literacy Launch and supporting scholarships through MASSGrant Plus.

This budget, along with the recently passed Fair Share surplus supplemental budget, also delivers on my administration's proposal to put \$8 billion in new resources toward transportation in the next 10 years. This includes historic levels of operating funding to stabilize the finances of the MBTA, enabling the MBTA to continue improving reliability and safety. The budget also extends historic funding to Regional Transit Authorities, including fare free service, and grants for transit providers to enhance mobility and connectivity options of Massachusetts residents. We are also grateful for the Legislature's support in increasing the amount of Fair Share revenue that will be dedicated to the Commonwealth Transportation Fund, expanding borrowing capacity for transformative capital investments in infrastructure including roads, bridges, rail, and climate resilient culverts. Some of the new capital funds will be used to increase transportation aid for local cities and towns, ease congestion, and improve safety across the state. By unlocking the potential for greater capital investment, the Healey-Driscoll administration, in partnership with the Legislature, is maximizing Fair Share revenues for transportation. Overall, the budget we are signing today is a \$60.9 billion spending plan for FY26 that includes \$2.4 billion of surtax spending. The budget reflects 1 percent growth over FY25 estimated spending. It is both thoughtful and responsible in this current economic climate.

But we also must acknowledge the headwinds blowing in our direction.

I want to thank the Legislature for their efforts to pull back on some spending in this budget, recognizing the great uncertainty ahead for both our economy and the lack of support we can expect to get from the federal government. Massachusetts, like other states, needs to be prepared to respond rapidly to evolving economic conditions. We know of looming federal cuts and tax law changes that could have negative implications for state tax revenue. By creating a cushion in this budget of more than \$800 million in unallocated resources, we will be better positioned to respond to an economic downturn or cuts in federal support for Medicaid, food security and other critical programming.

With the budget space created by my vetoes, I will be filing a supplemental budget to create a flexible reserve of \$100 million so that our administration can rapidly address pressures created by time-sensitive federal actions and respond to critical unfunded spending needs for FY26. This would include additional resources for the Department of Transitional Assistance with the goal of avoiding layoffs that could result without additional funding.

We are also seeking the authority to make mid-year health insurance plan changes for individuals insured through the Group Insurance Commission to help relieve pressure on the budget and the premium rates paid by members. The high-cost of GLP-1 weight-loss drugs have put extraordinary pressure on the GIC, and like other states, we believe it is the right time to scale back coverage of those drugs to only those patients for whom the medication is medically necessary. This will allow us to save \$27.5 million in FY26 through a veto and will bring health plans offered to members more in line with the level of benefits offered in the private market. Given the urgency of these growing costs, the administration is asking the GIC to take up this proposal this fall to enable a mid-year plan change.

In addition, we believe that in these tight and uncertain budgetary times we must all do our part to live within our means. That is why we will be taking a number of administrative steps to responsibly manage the FY26 budget:

- Continuing the hiring freeze started this spring while we reevaluate our full-time employee totals across the executive branch
- Freezing a salary increase slated to go into effect in January for non-union Executive Branch managers, generating \$17 million in savings
- Balancing the importance to communities and non-profits of local earmarks against state fiscal pressures by holding off on funding earmarks until later this Fall when we have a better appreciation for its affordability in light of federal budget outcomes and early-year tax collections

I am pleased to be signing 130 of the 134 outside sections in the conference report. These sections include allowing electronic signatures on vehicle title transfers to remove red tape, establishing a small business ombudsman, modernizing the board of appeals, establishing a local option for licensing authorities to convert existing wine and malt beverage liquor licenses into all-alcoholic beverage licenses, and extending the Connector Care pilot, which provides people with income up to 500 percent

of the federal poverty level access to subsidized health plans, as well as previously mentioned reforms to brokers fees and fare-free regional transit.

Pursuant to Article LVI, as amended by Article XC, Section 3 of the Amendments to the Constitution of the Commonwealth, we are returning Section 29 related to vital statistics and Sections 20, 23, and 110 related to the Secure Choice Savings Program with recommendations for amendment.

Our reasons for doing so and the recommended amendments are set forth in separate letters that are dated today and included with this message as Attachments B and C. We are hopeful the House and Senate will work with us to address the proposals returned with amendment so that we can sign them in short order.

FY26 Budget Highlights:

Fair Share

- \$1.5 billion for education, including:
 - \$266 million total for higher education, including \$96 million for Mass Educate to build upon the success of Mass Reconnect and make community free for all, and \$85 million for MassGrant Plus scholarships
 - \$759.9 million for K-12 education, including \$180 million to guarantee access to free school meals for students across the Commonwealth and \$15 million for Literacy Launch
 - \$469.2 million for early education and care, including \$93.7 million for child care financial assistance and \$360 million to help support the C3 program
- \$711.9 million for transportation, including:
 - \$550 million of Fair Share revenue dedicated to the Commonwealth Transportation Fund, which will leverage over \$5 billion in borrowing for transformative infrastructure investments
 - \$470 million operating support to stabilize the MBTA
 - \$115 million for regional transit authorities, including grant programs and free fares

Education and Local Aid

- Fully funds the Student Opportunity Act with \$7.36 billion for Chapter 70 funding, a 7 percent increase over FY25
- \$150 in per pupil minimum aid
- \$182 million increase to Special Education Circuit Breaker, a 37% increase over FY25
- \$132.4 million for K-12 education transportation, including \$103.8 million for regional school transportation
- \$50.5 million to Reimagining High School through programs like MyCAP, early college and innovation career pathways
- Provides \$475 million in C3 grants to early education and care providers
- \$1.06 billion for child care financial assistance to help families pay for care
- \$120 million for Free Community College

- \$28 million for SUCCESS funding for advising, coaching, and wraparound services for higher education students
- \$1.64 billion in direct funding to public institutions of higher education
- \$39 million for local and regional library aid \$14.4 million increase to Unrestricted General Government Aid (UGGA)

Housing and Homelessness

- \$276 million for Emergency Assistance Family Shelter and Services to maintain the state's ongoing shelter response and housing stabilization efforts
- \$253.3 million for the Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program (MRVP) to support at least 10,000 housing vouchers for low-income tenants
- \$115.6 million for Subsidies to Local Housing Authorities (LHAs), supporting the approximately 70,000 residents in the state-aided public housing portfolio operated by 229 LHAs across the state
- \$10.1 million for Sponsor-Based Permanent Supportive Housing, supporting residents exiting shelter and enter permanent housing with access to case management services

Economic Development

- \$5 million for the Small Business Technical Assistance program
- \$1.4 million for the Small Business Development Center at UMass

Health and Human Services

- Fully funds the Chapter 257 rate reserve for human service providers at \$207 million
- Fully funds the Department of Developmental Services Turning 22 Program
- Expands support for DCF Family Resource Centers through an historic \$35 million investment
- \$14.7 million for maternal health services, including a continuing \$1.0 million investment for a doula certification program at the Department of Public Health
- Establishes the Affirming Health Care Trust Fund with a \$1 million investment
- \$5.5 million for Children's Advocacy Centers
- \$5 million to ensure continuity of abortion and abortion-related care in the event of a loss of federal funding

Energy and the Environment

- Funds the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs at \$557.7 million, which includes:
 - \$20 million for the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center, with \$10 million supported through off-budget resources, to support wind technology, decarbonized homes, and workforce training programs in the clean energy industry
 - \$6.2 million for environmental justice
 - \$50.6 million for emergency food assistance
 - \$15.6 million in Hazardous Waste Cleanup
 - \$1 million total for Dam Safety Technical Assistance to assist communities in addressing vulnerable dams
 - \$2.7 million to fund critical work on small bridges and culverts

Workforce Development

- Provides \$15.4 million for Summer Jobs Program for At-Risk Youth (Youthworks) to subsidize wages and facilitate career development for at-risk youth
- Provides \$9.0 million for Career Technical Institutes for the development and operation of career technical institutes in vocational-technical schools
- Supports \$8.2 million for MassHire Career Centers to provide regional workforce training and employee placement services across 29 locations
- Includes \$3.3 million for the Registered Apprenticeship Program to expand registered apprenticeships prioritizing manufacturing, health care, and IT industries

Serving Our Veterans

- Funds the Veterans' Services at \$201.6 million, a 4 percent increase above the FY25 GAA
- Fully funds the HEROs Act at \$81.8 million, a 16 percent increase above the FY25 GAA. The HEROs Act supports notable benefit changes, including increased annuity payments for disabled veterans, expanded access to behavioral health services for low-income veterans, and an expanded definition of 'veteran' to increase eligibility for state resources

Criminal Justice and Public Safety

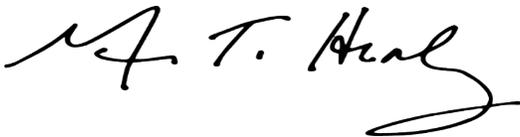
- \$10.1 million for gang prevention grants
- \$7 million for the Pre- and Post-Release Services grant program
- \$5.2 million for Non-profit Security Grants

Technology and Cybersecurity

- Continue support of implementation of the Digital Accessibility and Equity Governance Board
- Fully funded position of Chief IT Accessibility Officer (CIAO) to support accessibility of state technology and communications

I once again thank the Legislature for its ongoing partnership and working with us to deliver a responsible and impactful FY26 budget that will deliver for the people of the Massachusetts.

Respectfully Submitted,



Maura T. Healey
Governor



Kimberley Driscoll
Lieutenant Governor

Attachment A
Fiscal Year 2026 General Appropriation Act
Veto Items: Line Item Accounts

Item number	Action	Reduced By	Reduce To
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Administrative Staff

0330-0300	Reduce	9,338,252	350,736,748
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I am reducing this item to the amount projected to be necessary. The funding level sustains substantial recent annual investments in the Trial Courts and represents an increase above my House 1 recommendation.

Group Insurance Premium and Plan Costs

1108-5200	Reduce	27,500,000	2,372,061,737
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This reduction reflects policy proposals aimed at promoting affordability for beneficiaries, as well as stabilizing health insurance costs in light of increasing fiscal pressures.

DOR Commonwealth Sewer Rate Relief Fund

1231-1000	Veto	1,500,000	0
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I am vetoing this item to an amount consistent with my House 1 recommendation.

Core Technology Services and Security

1790-1700	Reduce	1,000,000	54,240,224
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I am reducing this item to the amount projected to be necessary based on savings and efficiencies achieved since my House 1 recommendation.

Environmental Law Enforcement

2030-1000	Reduce	31,246	16,875,354
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I am vetoing this item to an amount consistent with my House 1 recommendation.

Agricultural Resources Administration

2511-0100	Reduce/Strike Wording	300,000	11,845,330
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Item number	Action	Reduced By	Reduce To
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I am vetoing this item to eliminate a marketing campaign that was not deemed affordable at this time.

State Parks and Recreation

2810-0100	Reduce	400,000	113,420,049
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I am reducing this item to the amount projected to be necessary given the availability of alternative resources.

EEC Employer Pilot

3000-1049	Veto	1,000,000	0
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I am vetoing this item to be consistent with my House 1 recommendation. Sufficient resources from the prior fiscal year are actively being spent to support this pilot program.

Family Resource Centers

4000-0051	Veto	500,000	0
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I am vetoing this item to be consistent with my House 1 recommendation. Sufficient alternative resources are available at DCF Family Resource Centers (4800-0200).

MassHealth Nursing Home Supplemental Rates

4000-0641	Reduce/Strike Wording	25,000,000	625,073,456
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I am striking language that earmarks funding for a program expansion, and I am reducing this item to an amount consistent with my House 1 recommendation, which reflects \$102 million gross for increased nursing facility rates.

Community Services for the Blind

4110-1000	Reduce Earmarking	300,000	8,864,721
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I am reducing this item to the amount projected to be necessary. This reduction is not expected to impact planned programming.

Bureau of Substance Addiction Services

4512-0200	Reduce Earmarking	2,500,000	184,677,798
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I am reducing this item to the amount projected to be necessary to support continued programming. This operating funding overlaps with significant alternative funding sources to support expansions in low-threshold housing units and related supports.

Item number	Action	Reduced By	Reduce To
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Early Intervention Services

4513-1020	Reduce	1,530,735	37,719,649
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I am reducing this item to align with current utilization trends.

DMH Forensic Services Program

5055-0000	Reduce	1,499,999	17,462,960
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I am reducing this item to the H.1 level, which reflects the amount projected to be necessary to maintain planned services.

DMH Loan Forgiveness Program

5095-0017	Veto	3,000,000	0
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I am vetoing this item because this operating funding overlaps with alternative funding intended to support this purpose.

Career Technical Institutes

7002-1091	Reduce	250,000	8,985,600
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I am reducing this item to an amount consistent with my House 1 recommendation.

Department of Economic Research

7003-0105	Reduce	100,000	782,581
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I am reducing this item to reflect efficiencies and savings achieved since my House 1 filing.

Massachusetts Manufacturing Extension Partnership

7003-0606	Veto	2,000,000	0
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I am vetoing this item to an amount consistent with my House 1 recommendation and due to the availability of alternative resources that support manufacturing.

Shelter Workforce Assistance

7004-0109	Reduce Earmarking	5,000,000	5,000,000
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Item number	Action	Reduced By	Reduce To
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I am reducing this item because it is not consistent with my House 1 recommendation. This funding was established as a one-time support associated with recent caseload increases. As the Administration continues to work towards a more sustainable shelter system, this is the amount projected to be necessary.

Housing Services and Counseling

7004-3036	Reduce	500,000	5,350,000
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I am reducing this item to the amount projected to be necessary. Funding for this account increased significantly during the pandemic. This reduced level better aligns with current demand.

Regional Economic Development Grants

7007-0150	Veto	1,000,000	0
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I am vetoing this item following a reevaluation of needs and resources after filing my House 1 recommendation.

Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism

7008-0900	Reduce	279,871	4,435,750
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I am reducing this item due to the availability of alternative resources.

Massachusetts International Trade Council

7008-1300	Veto	151,039	0
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I am vetoing this item due to the availability of alternative resources.

Charter School Reimbursement

7061-9010	Reduce	19,898,807	179,089,258
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I am reducing this item to an amount consistent with my House 1 recommendation. Given historic fluctuations in enrollment, my Administration will continue to monitor needs over the course of the fiscal year.

Statewide College and Career Readiness Program

7061-9406	Veto	875,000	0
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I am vetoing this item to be consistent with my House 1 recommendation. Alternative funding is available for programs related to career readiness and early college.

Item number	Action	Reduced By	Reduce To
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Tufts School of Veterinary Medicine Program

7077-0023	Reduce	700,000	5,500,000
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I am reducing this item to an amount consistent with my House 1 recommendation.

Transfer to MassCEC

1595-6232	Reduce	10,000,000	10,000,000
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I am reducing this item to reflect that alternative funding has been identified to offset this reduction and support the \$20 million funding level.

Massachusetts Transportation Trust Fund

1595-6368	Reduce	14,000,000	558,945,163
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I am reducing this item to the amount projected to be necessary. Alternative funding will be available for these purposes.

HOUSE No. 4250



MAURA T. HEALEY
GOVERNOR

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KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

ATTACHMENT B

July 4, 2025

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives:

Pursuant to Article LVI, as amended by Article XC, Section 3 of the Amendments to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, I am returning to you for amendment Sections 20, 23, and 110 of House Bill No. 4240, “An Act making appropriations for the fiscal year 2026 for the maintenance of the departments, boards, commissions, institutions and certain activities of the Commonwealth, for interest, sinking fund and serial bond requirements, and for certain permanent improvements.”

Sections 20, 23, and 110 seek to expand access to retirement savings to many Massachusetts workers who currently lack an employer-provided retirement plan. To do so, the provisions authorize the Treasurer to establish and manage a state-run retirement savings program and create a mandate on certain employers to either participate in the program or offer a privately-managed retirement program.

All Massachusetts workers deserve dignity and financial security in their retirements, and I commend the Legislature for exploring this very important policy. However, after careful review, I believe that further consideration of the proposal is warranted. Saving for retirement is an important goal, but there are many ways to encourage this behavior. This proposal has invited feedback from various groups who, while supportive of the goal of expanding access to

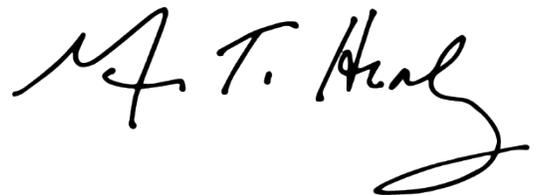
retirement saving, suggest there are additional implementation questions that need to be resolved prior to enactment. These implementation questions should be answered before we establish a new statewide program and obligation on Massachusetts employers.

For these reasons, I recommend that sections 20, 23, and 110 be amended by striking out the sections and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

SECTION 20. There shall be a task force to review and provide recommendations on options to promote and foster financial security in retirement for Massachusetts residents. The task force shall be chaired by the Treasurer, or their designee, and shall include the commissioner of revenue, or their designee, and stakeholders from the employer community, including but not limited to non-profit organizations and stakeholders with expertise in the retirement savings industry. The task force shall review the following: (i) the feasibility and cost of establishing a state-run retirement savings program; (ii) benefits to employers on offering retirement programs, either privately or publicly run; (iii) ways to reduce the administrative and cost impacts of offering retirement programs on employers; (iv) ways to enforce a state law requirement to provide access to retirement savings programs; and (v) any other topics the Treasurer would recommend.

The Treasurer shall publicly post a report on their website no later than July 1, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. T. Healey". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail that loops back under the name.

Maura T. Healey
Governor

HOUSE No. 4250



MAURA T. HEALEY
GOVERNOR

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KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

ATTACHMENT C

July 4, 2025

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives:

Pursuant to Article LVI, as amended by Article XC, Section 3 of the Amendments to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, I am returning to you for amendment Section 29 of House Bill No. 4240, “An Act making appropriations for the fiscal year 2026 for the maintenance of the departments, boards, commissions, institutions and certain activities of the Commonwealth, for interest, sinking fund and serial bond requirements, and for certain permanent improvements.”

Section 29 provides important updates to the vital statistics statute to make our laws more inclusive and accessible to all Massachusetts residents. This section includes a proposal to remove Social Security numbers from death records. Because death records are public records, it can be a fraud risk to have a decedent’s Social Security number on a death certificate. However, there are also circumstances under which it is important or helpful to have a decedent’s Social Security number included in their death record.

For example, the Department of Public Health includes Social Security numbers in death records sent to the Social Security Administration, providing protections against fraud, as well as ensuring that no accidental overpayments occur. In addition, estate administrators or family members going through probate may find it more efficient to use a death certificate with the

decedent's Social Security number to close bank accounts and take other important actions. Furthermore, this section, as proposed in H.4240, would take effect retroactively to July 1, 2025. This retroactive date would create confusion and lead to implementation challenges.

To address these challenges, I am proposing to amend Section 29 to clarify that Social Security numbers will be part of a decedent's death record, but will be held confidential on death certificates, unless an appropriate requester, such as next of kin or the executor of an estate so requests. I am also proposing to make this confidentiality requirement take effect in 12 months. This will allow the Department of Public Health additional time to implement these changes to ensure the correct balance of protections for Social Security numbers.

For these reasons, I recommend that section 29 be amended by striking out the section and inserting in place thereof the following 2 sections:-

SECTION 29. Chapter 46 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out section 1, as amended by section 1 of chapter 166 of the acts of 2024, and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

Section 1. Each local clerk shall obtain and record the following facts set forth in this section, as well as such additional information that may be required under federal statutes or contracts, regulations promulgated pursuant to section 4 of chapter 17 or as the commissioner of public health may require, relative to births, marriages, acknowledgments and adjudications of parentage and deaths which occurred in the town or city and for certificates of marriage issued by the town or city.

In the record of births, name, date of birth, place of birth and sex of child; legal names, dates of birth, residences, places of birth and surname at birth or adoption of the parent or parents. In the record of birth of a child born to parents not married to each other, the name of and other facts relating to the other parent or parents shall not be recorded except as provided in section 2 of chapter 209C where parentage has been acknowledged or adjudicated under the laws of the commonwealth or under the laws of any other jurisdiction.

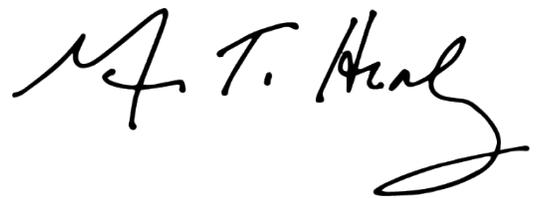
In the record of marriages, date of record, date and place of marriage, name, residence and official station of the person by whom solemnized; for each of the parties to be married the name, date and place of birth, residence, age, number of the marriage and if previously married, whether widowed or divorced and the name at birth or adoption of the parties' parents.

In the record of death, date of death, name of deceased, including surname at birth or adoption, social security number, gender, race, marital status, education, name of spouse if ever

married, supposed age, residence, occupation, place of death, place of birth, surname at birth or adoption and places of birth of the deceased's parent or parents, disease or cause of death, defined so that it can be classified under the international classification of causes of death, and place and type of immediate disposition. As used in this section, the word "residence" shall include the name of the street and number, if any, of the house. For purposes of this section, the social security number in a record of death shall not be made available except upon request from a person with a legitimate need, as defined in regulations promulgated pursuant to section 4 of chapter 17.

SECTION 29A. The last sentence of section 1 of chapter 46 of the General Laws, as amended by section 29 of this act, shall take effect on July 1, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. T. Healey". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

Maura T. Healey
Governor

The actions taken by the Governor are delineated on this excerpt from the original parchment:—

I disapprove the following items:

in Section 2

1231-1000
3000-1049
4000-0051
5095-0017
7003-0606
7007-0150
7008-1300
7061-9406

I reduce the following items in Section 2 to the following amounts:

Section 2	Reduced By	Reduce To
0330-0300	9,338,252	350,736,748
1108-5200	27,500,000	2,372,061,737
1790-1700	1,000,000	54,240,224
2030-1000	31,246	16,875,354
2810-0100	400,000	113,420,049
4513-1020	1,530,735	37,719,649
5055-0000	1,499,999	17,462,960
7002-1091	250,000	8,985,600
7003-0105	100,000	782,581
7004-3036	500,000	5,350,000
7008-0900	279,871	4,435,750
7061-9010	19,898,807	179,089,258
7077-0023	700,000	5,500,000

I reduce the following items in Section 2E to the following amounts:

Section 2E	Reduced By	Reduce To
1595-6232	10,000,000	10,000,000
1595-6368	14,000,000	558,945,163

I reduce the following items in Section 2 to the following amounts, and disapprove the wording as indicated:

Section 2	Reduced By	Reduce To	Wording Stricken
2511-0100	300,000	11,845,330	; provided further, that not less than \$300,000 shall be expended to support the department's agricultural marketing division
4000-0641	25,000,000	625,073,456	; provided further, that not less than \$25,000,000 shall be expended in base rates for additional payments over the rate established in October 2024 to reflect nursing facility resident care and workforce costs including wages, hiring of staff and training for nursing facility workers

I reduce the following items in Section 2 by striking the wording as indicated and inserting in place thereof the following wording set forth below:

Section 2	Reduced By	Reduce To	Wording Stricken
4110-1000	300,000	8,864,721	<p>Wording Stricken</p> <p>; provided further, that not less than \$1,100,000 shall be expended by the Massachusetts commission for the blind to maximize the independent living skills of legally blind residents of the commonwealth through rehabilitation programs, housing assistance services, adjustment counseling services and the provision of accessible devices, assistive software and equipment and supportive technology training provided by qualified nonprofit providers in community, residential, virtual and facility--based settings; provided further, that not less than \$500,000 of said \$1,100,000 shall be made available for the Carroll Center for the Blind, Inc.; and provided further, that not less than \$300,000 of said \$1,100,000 shall be made available for the MAB Community Services, Inc.</p> <p>Wording Inserted</p>
4512-0200	2,500,000	184,677,798	<p>Wording Stricken</p> <p>; provided further, that not less than \$500,000 shall be made available for the Carroll Center for the Blind, Inc.; and provided further, that not less than \$300,000 shall be made available for the MAB Community Services, Inc.</p> <p>Wording Inserted</p> <p>; provided further, that not less than \$7,500,000 shall be spent for expanding low-threshold housing, employing a "Housing First" model, for homeless individuals with substance use and mental health disorders at risk of HIV</p> <p>Wording Inserted</p>

7004-0109

5,000,000

5,000,000

; provided further, that not less than \$5,000,000 shall be spent for expanding low-threshold housing, employing a "Housing First" model, for homeless individuals with substance use and mental health disorders at risk of HIV
Wording Stricken

; provided further, that, not less than \$5,000,000 be made available to shelters contracted through item 7004-0101; provided further, that not less than \$5,000,000 be made available to shelters contracted through item 7004-0102

Wording Inserted

; provided further, that, not less than \$2,500,000 be made available to shelters contracted through item 7004-0101; provided further, that not less than \$2,500,000 be made available to shelters contracted through item 7004-0102

I return for amendment, pursuant to the authority vested in me by Article 56, as amended by Article 90, Section 3, of the Amendments to the Constitution, Sections 20, 23, 29 and 110. The text of my recommended amendments is set forth in separate letters of this date to the Senate and House of Representatives.

The remainder of this bill I approve.

Approved, July 4, 2025

at o'clock and minutes, .M.

Maura Healey

Governor