

**Tuesday, April 29, 2025 (at 11:00 o'clock A.M.).**

At the request of the Chair (Mr. Donato of Medford), the members, guests and employees joined with him in reciting the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Pledge of  
allegiance.

*Statement of Representative Uytterhoeven of Somerville.*

A statement of Ms. Uytterhoeven of Somerville was spread upon the records of the House, as follows:

MR. SPEAKER: I would like to call to the attention of the House the fact that I was unable to be present in the House Chamber for a portion of today's sitting due to personal business outside of the State House. Had I been present, I would have voted in the negative on roll calls numbered 34 to 39, inclusive, and in the affirmative on roll call number 40. My missing of said roll calls was due entirely to the reason stated.

Statement of  
Ms. Uytterhoeven  
of Somerville.

*Communications.*

Communications

From the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (see section 1S(d) of Chapter 69 of the General Laws) submitting a report to the Legislature: Student Opportunity Act Three-Year Evidence-Based Plans for fiscal year 2022;

Student  
Opportunity  
Act.

From the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (see section 1S(d) of Chapter 69 of the General Laws) submitting a report to the Legislature: Student Opportunity Act Three-Year Evidence-Based Plans for fiscal year 2021; and

Id.

From the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (see section 1S(d) of Chapter 69 of the General Laws) submitting a report to the Legislature: Student Opportunity Act Three-Year Evidence-Based Plans for fiscal year 2020;

Id.

Severally were placed on file.

*Monthly Reports.*

Monthly reports

Of the Department of Unemployment Assistance (under Section 14F of Chapter 151A of the General Laws) relative to the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund for February, 2025; and

Unemployment  
Insurance  
Trust Fund.

Of the Executive Office of the Trial Court (under Section 15 of Chapter 239 of the General Laws, as amended by Section 64 of Chapter 28 of the Acts of 2023) submitting its report on filings, actions, and dispositions of summary process cases relative to permanent rental protections;

Permanent  
rental  
protections.

Severally were placed on file.

*Papers from the Senate.*

Reports

Of the committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure, asking to be discharged from further consideration

Of the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 215) of John J. Cronin for legislation updating the definition of physical therapy;

Physical  
therapy.

Of the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 248) of John F. Keenan and Paul W. Mark for legislation to license and regulate surgical assistants; and

Surgical  
assistants.

Of the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 253) of Jason M. Lewis for legislation to modernize licensure of dietitians and nutritionists by creating a dietetics and nutrition board;

Dietitians and  
nutritionists.

And recommending that the same severally be referred to the committee on Public Health.

Severally accepted by the Senate, were considered forthwith, under Rule 42; and they were accepted, in concurrence.

### *Orders of the Day.*

The House Bill 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 (House, No. 4000, amended), was considered.

General  
Appropriation  
Bill.

Pending the question on passing the bill, as amended, to be engrossed, Mr. Jones of North Reading and other members of the House moved to amend the bill in section 2, in item 1233-2350, by striking out the figures: “1,308,713,668” and inserting in place thereof the figures: “1,318,713,668”;

In section 2E by striking out item 1595-6153;

In section 3 by striking out the figure “\$1,308,713,668” and inserting in place thereof the following figure “\$1,318,713,668”; and

By adding the following 3 sections:

“SECTION 84. Chapter 64 of the Acts of 2023 is hereby repealed.

SECTION 85. There shall be a commission to study and develop recommendations for a fiscally constrained and sustainable alternative to the no cost calls initiative.

The commission shall include the secretary of the executive office of public safety and security, who shall serve as the chair, the house and senate chairs of the joint committee on public safety, 1 member who shall be appointed by the house minority leader, 1 member who shall be appointed by the senate minority leader, 1 member who shall be appointed by the speaker of the house, 1 member who shall be appointed by the senate president, and 3 representatives from the Massachusetts Sheriffs’ Association.

The commission shall study, including, but not limited to, the fiscal challenges previously posed by the no cost calls program, the impact that providing unlimited calls to incarcerated individuals had on participation in state funded re-entry programs, and the operational challenges that the program had created for state prisons, and state and county correctional facilities.

The commission shall develop and recommend fiscally constrained alternatives to the no cost calls program that allows incarcerated individuals reasonable access to the ability to contact their friends and family, without posing impacts on the participation in re-entry programs or the operations of correctional facilities.

The commission shall submit its findings and recommendations to the joint committee on public safety and the clerks of the house and senate within 6 months of the passage of this act.

SECTION 86. Section 85 shall take effect immediately upon the passage of this act.”.

After debate on the question on adoption of the amendments, the sense of the House was taken by the yeas and nays, at the request of Mr. Smola of Warren; and on the roll call 26 members voted in the affirmative and 130 in the negative.

[See [Yea and Nay No. 34](#) in Supplement.]

Therefore the amendments were rejected.

Representatives Frost of Auburn and Pease of Westfield then moved to amend the bill by adding the following section:

“SECTION 84. The House of Representatives is hereby directed to request an Opinion of the Justices regarding the constitutionality of Chapter 40B of the General Laws.”.

After debate on the question on adoption of the amendment, the sense of the House was taken by the yeas and nays, at the request of the same member; and on the roll call 26 members voted in the affirmative and 130 in the negative.

[See [Yea and Nay No. 35](#) in Supplement.]

Therefore the amendment was rejected.

Ms. Hogan of Stow being in the Chair,—

Mr. Jones of North Reading and other members of the House then moved to amend the bill by adding the following section:

“SECTION 84. Chapter 276 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after section 20R the following section:

Section 20S. (a) Any employee of the commonwealth, or a public instrumentality or political subdivision thereof, who holds police powers or the powers of a sheriff or deputy sheriff, including but not limited to municipal police officers, court officers, and state troopers, and who has lawful custody of a person may, upon receipt of (1) a written request from United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement requesting detention of such person on the grounds that there is probable cause that such person is a removable alien and (2) an administrative warrant for arrest or warrant of removal/deportation, detain such person for a reasonable period of time after such person would otherwise be released from custody in order to transfer custody of such person to United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement, provided that a supervisory officer of such employee’s agency has, in accordance with a policy promulgated in accordance with subsection (c), first determined that there are specific facts indicating that the person to be detained poses a threat to public safety; and further provided that such person be provided with a copy of such written request; and further provided that in no circumstances shall such detention exceed 12 hours unless an appropriate judicial officer shall have made a probable cause determination under the procedure set forth in subsection (d).

(b) As used in subsection (a), ‘specific facts indicating that the person to be detained poses a threat to public safety’ shall mean that, at a minimum, any of the following facts are true with respect to such person:

(1) the person has engaged in or is suspected of terrorism or espionage, or otherwise poses a danger to national security;

(2) the person has been convicted of an offense of which an element was active participation in a criminal street gang, as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 521(a);

(3) the person has been convicted of an offense classified as a felony, other than a state or local offense for which an essential element was the person’s immigration status;

(4) the person has been convicted of an aggravated felony, as defined under 8 U.S.C. § 1101(a)(43); or

Amendments  
rejected,—  
yea and nay  
No. 34.

Amendment  
rejected,—  
yea and nay  
No. 35.

(5) the person has been convicted of a crime of (i) domestic violence; (ii) sexual abuse or exploitation; (iii) trafficking in persons in violation of sections 50 or 51 of chapter 265 or like violations of the law of another state, the United States or a military, territorial or Indian tribal authority; (iv) burglary; (v) unlawful possession or use of a firearm; (vi) drug distribution or trafficking; (vii) second or subsequent operating or driving under the influence; or (viii) any other offense for which the person has been sentenced to time in custody of 180 days or more.

(c) Each agency of the commonwealth or any public instrumentality or political subdivision of the commonwealth that chooses to allow its employees to exercise the authority granted by subsection (a) shall promulgate a written policy designating which supervisory officers may make the determination required by subsection (a) before a person is detained and the criteria such supervisory officer shall use in making such determination.

(d) A determination of probable cause for detention shall be made by an appropriate judicial officer and promptly reduced to writing. The appropriate judicial officer shall consider any information presented by the detaining agency, whether or not known at the time of initial detention. The detaining agency shall present the information under oath or affirmation or under the pains and penalties of perjury, and may present the information orally, in person or by any other means, or in writing. If presented in writing, the information may be transmitted to the appropriate judicial officer by facsimile transmission or by electronic mail or by such other electronic means as may be found acceptable by the court. The determination of probable cause for detention shall be an ex parte proceeding. The person detained shall have no right to appear, either in person or by counsel. If the judicial officer determines that there is not probable cause to believe the person detained is a removable alien, then the judicial officer shall order that the person be released forthwith. Such a determination and order shall be filed in the district court having jurisdiction over the location of the detention, together with all written information submitted by the detaining agency. Such documents shall be filed separately from the records of criminal cases, and shall be open for inspection by the public. If a determination under this subsection is necessary, the detaining agency shall present the information necessary to obtain such determination to the appropriate judicial officer as soon as reasonably possible after the detention begins, but no later than 12 hours after the detention begins.

(e) This section shall not be construed to give rise to a private right of action and shall not be construed so as to make unlawful any arrest in this commonwealth which would otherwise be lawful.”.

After debate on the question on adoption of the amendment, the sense of the House was taken by the yeas and nays, at the request of Mr. Frost of Auburn; and on the roll call 25 members voted in the affirmative and 131 in the negative.

**[See [Yea and Nay No. 36](#) in Supplement.]**

Therefore the amendment was rejected.

Representatives Lombardo of Billerica, Boldyga of Southwick and Pease of Westfield then moved to amend the bill by adding the following section:

“SECTION 84. Chapter 276 of the General Laws as appearing in the 2022 Official Addition is hereby amended by inserting after Section 103 the following section:-

Section 104. (a) Definitions. As used in this section the following words shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

‘ICE detainer’ means a valid request from Immigration and Customs Enforcement directing that an individual be held beyond the expiration of local custody solely for the purpose of initiating federal removal proceedings.

Amendment  
rejected,—  
yea and nay  
No. 36.

‘Law Enforcement Agency’ means an agency in this commonwealth charged with enforcement of state and federal laws, or with managing custody of detained persons in this commonwealth, and includes, but not limited to, Municipal Police, State Police, Campus Police, the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, Departments of Correction, and Sheriff’s Departments. This also includes officials, representatives, agents, and employees of an agency as mentioned above.

‘Official’ means an agent, employee, member, or representative of a state governmental entity.

‘Courts’ means all Massachusetts Courts within the judicial branch of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as established by the Massachusetts Constitution and the Acts of the General Court.

‘EOPSS’ means the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security.

‘287(g) Program’ means Section 287(g) of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 which was added to the Immigration and Nationality Act. This section authorized U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to delegate to state and local law enforcement officers the authority to perform specific immigration officer functions under the agency’s direction and oversight.

(b) All Massachusetts Courts and Law Enforcement Agencies shall honor ICE detainers for individuals in their custody. The subject of the ICE detainer shall be held in custody for up to forty-eight hours to facilitate the transfer from state or municipal custody to federal custody.

(c) The Registrar of Motor Vehicles shall immediately provide the Department of Immigration and Customs Enforcement access to the Registry of Motor Vehicles data for investigation purposes.

(d) The Secretary of the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS) shall maintain 287(g) Program agreements with Immigration and Customs and Customs Enforcement. At all times, no less than five percent of employees at the Department of Corrections shall be properly trained under the 287(g) Program.”.

Ms. Peisch of Wellesley thereupon raised a point of order that the amendment offered by the gentleman from Billerica was improperly before the House for the reason that it would require certain state agencies to hold individuals with ICE detainers.

Point of  
order.

Since the House has already refused to authorize the holding of individuals of ICE detainers by certain state agencies, the amendment exceeds the refusal that the House previously voted against.

In answer to the point of order, the Chair (Ms. Hogan of Stow) stated that since the House has, in fact, already refused to require the holding of individuals with ICE detainers, the amendment exceeds the refusal that the House previous voted against.

Therefore the Chair ruled that the point of order was well taken; and the amendment was laid aside accordingly.

Mr. Lombardo of Billerica and other members of the House then moved to amend the bill by adding the following section:

“SECTION 84. Subsection B of section 2 of chapter 18 of the General Laws, as appearing in Section 30 of chapter 23B of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after the word ‘program.’, in line 9, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, the following words:

Notwithstanding any general or special law, rule or regulation to the contrary, the emergency housing assistance program established herein shall be available only to residents of the Commonwealth who are citizens of the United States and have been a resident of Massachusetts for no less than six months.”.

After debate on the question on adoption of the amendment, the sense of the House was taken by the yeas and nays, at the request of the same member; and on the roll call 27 members voted in the affirmative and 129 in the negative.

**[See [Yea and Nay No. 37](#) in Supplement.]**

Therefore the amendment was rejected.

Mr. Jones of North Reading and other members of the House then moved to amend the bill by adding the following section:

“SECTION 84. Section 3A of chapter 40A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting, in subsection (b), in line 18, after the words ‘chapter 23A’ the following:-

‘; provided, however, that under no circumstances shall any city or town’s eligibility for public safety related grant funding, including but not limited to the Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant program, be contingent upon that city or town’s compliance with this section’.”.

After debate on the question on adoption of the amendment, the sense of the House was taken by the yeas and nays, at the request of the same member; and on the roll call 28 members voted in the affirmative and 128 in the negative.

**[See [Yea and Nay No. 38](#) in Supplement.]**

Therefore the amendment was rejected.

The Speaker being in the Chair,—

Mr. Sweezy of Duxbury and other members of the House then moved to amend the bill by adding the following section:

“SECTION 84. Section 3A of chapter 40A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting the following subsection:

(d) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities or Attorney General’s Office shall not enforce any regulation, directive, or requirement relative to this section prior to December 31, 2026.”.

After debate on the question on adoption of the amendment, the sense of the House was taken by the yeas and nays, at the request of the same member; and on the roll call 30 members voted in the affirmative and 126 in the negative.

**[See [Yea and Nay No. 39](#) in Supplement.]**

Therefore the amendment was rejected.

Mr. Michlewitz of Boston and other members of the House then moved, under the provisions of the last sentence of the penultimate paragraph of Rule 20A, to amend the bill in section 2, in item 0330-0300, in line 20, by inserting after the word “employees” the following: “; provided, that not less than \$75,000 shall be expended to assist in programming efforts for the Justice Bridge Program at the University of Massachusetts School of Law”; and in said item by striking out the figures: “358,597,713” and inserting in place thereof the figures: “358,672,713”;

In item 0337-0002 by adding the following: “; provided, that not less than \$394,495 shall be expended to CASA Project Worcester County for their court appointed special advocate program in Worcester county; provided further, that not less than \$124,771 shall be expended to Friends of Children, Inc. for their court appointed special advocate program in Franklin and Hampshire counties; provided further, that not less than \$165,138 shall be expended to Center for Human Development, Incorporated for their court appointed special advocate program in Hampden county; provided further, that not less than \$153,211 shall be expended to Family Services of Merrimack Valley for their court appointed special advocate program in Essex county; provided further, that not less than \$264,220 shall be expended to Boston CASA for their court appointed special advocate program in

Amendment  
rejected,—  
yea and nay  
No. 37.

Amendment  
rejected,—  
yea and nay  
No. 38.

Amendment  
rejected,—  
yea and nay  
No. 39.

Consolidated  
amendments  
(public safety,  
judiciary and  
housing).

Suffolk and Middlesex counties; provided further, that not less than \$91,743 shall be expended to 18 Degrees, Inc. for their court appointed special advocate program in Berkshire county; provided further, that not less than \$91,743 shall be expended to the Massachusetts CASA Association; and provided further, that not less than \$114,679 shall be expended to The Advocacy Bridge, Inc. for their CARE advocate program in Bristol county”; and in said item by striking out the figures: “27,679,013” and inserting in place thereof the figures: “29,079,013”;

In item 0339-1011, in line 18, by inserting after the word “design” the following: “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to Positive Action Against Chemical Addiction Incorporated, in the city of New Bedford, for costs related to their PAACA Housing Support Fund”; and in said item by striking out the figures: “16,079,410” and inserting in place thereof the figures: “16,104,410”;

In item 7004-0099, in line 58, by inserting after the word “homelessness” the following: “; provided further, that not less than \$200,000 shall be expended to Revitalize Community Development Corporation to support the growth of service to more low-income individuals in need and filling a gap in serving individuals at home to prevent the need for hospitalization; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for the Boston Housing Authority for improvements to exterior space at the Gallivan Boulevard Homes and to support community gardening and resident-driven food sustainability initiatives; provided further, that not less than \$75,000 shall be expended for Maverick Landing Community Services, Inc. to provide information, education and assistance on housing rights and eviction and foreclosure issues, including completing and submitting housing assistance applications for tenants and small homeowners, through a housing support station in the East Boston community”; and in said item by striking out the figures: “15,573,388” and inserting in place thereof the figures: “15,873,388”;

In item 7004-0101, in line 268, by inserting after the word “accommodation” the following: “; provided further, that not less than \$350,000 shall be expended for Horizons for Homeless Children, Inc.”; and in said item by striking out the figures: “\$275,271,903” and inserting in place thereof the figures: “275,621,903”;

In item 7004-0102, in line 18, by inserting after the year: “2020” the following: “; provided further, that not less than \$75,000 shall be expended for the United Way of Pioneer Valley on behalf of the Western Massachusetts Network to End Homelessness to facilitate regional coordination across Hampden, Hampshire, Franklin and Berkshire counties to prevent and end homelessness with a housing first approach that centers racial equity”; and in said item by striking out the figures: “115,752,398” and inserting in place thereof the figures: “115,827,398”;

In item 7004-0104, in line 9, by inserting after the word “program” the following: “; provided further, that not less than \$500,000 shall be expended to the Massachusetts Housing and Shelter Alliance, Inc. for the purpose of promotion, resource development and technical assistance related to the creation of permanent supportive housing for persons with disabilities who are experiencing homelessness and other solutions to homelessness”;

In item 7004-0107 by adding the following: “; provided, that not less than \$5,000 shall be expended for necessary repairs within the Hanson Housing Authority in the town of Hanson; provided further, that not less than \$15,000 shall be expended for necessary repairs within the Norwell Housing Authority in the town of Norwell; provided further, that not less than \$125,000 shall be expended for the Friendly House, Inc. in the city of Worcester; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for the Quinsigamond Community Village Center in the city of Worcester; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to the

Greater Lawrence Community Action Council, Inc. to support the Heal Lawrence program in providing critical emergency relocation assistance, comprehensive stabilization services and proactive community education for families displaced by fires and other residential emergencies in the city of Lawrence with services including short-term housing placement, referrals to community-based resources and outreach that fosters public awareness and resilience across impacted neighborhoods; provided further, that not less than \$20,000 shall be expended to the city of Somerville for staffing and administration costs to continue their housing bridge pilot program to facilitate interim housing stability for individuals applying for a more affordable permanent housing situation; provided further, that not less than \$60,000 shall be expended to NBCAC (Northern Bristol County Assistance Collaborative) for costs associated with the construction of low-to-mid income housing dedicated to seniors; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to Housing Families Homeless Children program in Malden; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to Action for Boston Community Development, Inc. to support its mobile homeless outreach team in the cities of Everett, Malden and Medford; provided further, that not less than \$200,000 shall be expended for the Saving Towards Affordable and Sustainable Homeownership program administered by the Massachusetts Affordable Homeownership Alliance, Inc. to assist first-generation homebuyers in a regionally equitable manner to benefit communities throughout the commonwealth; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be made available to the Housing Assistance Corporation for the development of housing and project feasibility studies to expedite the creation of more year-round housing, and for technical assistance to homeowners who are building new accessory dwelling units for year-round rentals; and provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to Quincy Community Action Programs, Inc. for homelessness prevention services”; and in said item by striking out the figures: “100,000” and inserting in place thereof the figures: “775,000”;

In item 7004-3036, in line 17, by inserting after the words “services” the following: “; provided further, that not less than \$150,000 shall be expended to the city known as the town of Barnstable to support the development and operation of a municipal housing resource initiative to improve housing access for the local workforce; provided further, that said funds may be expended to provide financial support to first-time homebuyers employed in the city known as the town of Barnstable”; and in said item by striking out the figures: “5,200,000” and inserting in place thereof the figures: “5,350,000”;

In item 7004-9005, in line 26, by inserting after the word “repairs” the following: “; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended to the Lexington housing authority to support utility repairs in Greeley Village”; and in said item by striking out the figures: “115,500,000” and inserting in place thereof the figures: “115,600,000”;

In item 8000-0313 by adding the following: “; provided, that not less than \$30,000 shall be expended to make critical upgrades to the public safety building in the town of Saugus; provided further, that not less than \$12,126 shall be expended for the purchase of automated external defibrillators for police patrol cruisers in the town of Westborough; provided further, that not less than \$125,000 shall be expended for the Dismas House of Massachusetts, Inc. in Worcester; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for police equipment, including rifles and shields, for the city of Melrose; provided further, that not less than \$15,000 shall be expended for training expenses for the Pembroke police and fire departments; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to the town of Wenham for the procurement



of a rescue boat to be used by the Wenham fire department; provided further, that not less than \$15,000 shall be expended for the study of building out a regional dispatch center for public safety in Blackstone; provided further, that not less than \$20,000 shall be expended for the acquisition of tactical and active response equipment for the police department in the town of Charlton; provided further, that not less than \$40,000 shall be expended for public safety improvements in the town of Grafton; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for public safety improvements in the town of Northbridge; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for public safety improvements in the town of Upton; provided further, that not less than \$5,000 shall be expended to the town of Mansfield for the Mansfield police department for programs or systems to assist in tracking, finding or rescuing vulnerable people; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for necessary HVAC replacements to the public safety building in the town of Seekonk; provided further, that not less than \$20,000 shall be expended to the town of Milton's police department to increase access to clinician resources; provided further, that not less than \$30,000 shall be expended to the town of Mansfield for a mobile blood transfusion program; provided further, that not less than \$20,000 shall be expended to the city of Boston for the payroll costs of the Boston police department for dedicated patrols of the Fairmount Housing Development in the Hyde Park section of the city of Boston; provided further, that not less than \$45,000 shall be expended to the Northwestern Youth Fire Intervention Response, Education and Safety Partnership (NoFIRES) program to support fire safety education and intervention services for families in the region; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to the city of Boston for the payroll costs of the Boston police department for dedicated patrols of Uphams Corner, Bowdoin street, Geneva avenue, Grove Hall, Washington street (Four Corners), Old road, Blue Hill/Columbia in the Dorchester and Roxbury sections of the city of Boston; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for the Braintree police department's family services unit in the city known as the town of Braintree; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for equipment for the city known as the town of Braintree's fire department; provided further, that not less than \$250,000 shall be expended for Recidiviz Inc. to provide technology and data support to improve reentry outcomes; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to the city of Lynn for gun violence prevention community programming; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for the police department in the town of Plymouth to purchase deployable traffic safety barriers for use during public events; provided further, that not less than \$65,000 shall be expended to the town of Auburn for public safety communication equipment and programming of dispatch radio consoles; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to the Tyngsborough police department for lake Mascuppig marine patrols; provided further, that not less than \$19,000 shall be expended for the equipment needs of the Bourne police department; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to the town of Boylston as compensation for hosting a municipal police training academy; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended to the Northeastern Massachusetts Law Enforcement Council, Inc.; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to the Boston police department area A-1 district for ADA-compliant barriers for events in the A-1 district; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for the Woburn police department for capital items; and provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for the Boston Main Streets Foundation to support the installation of security cameras in commercial districts located within the 5th Suffolk district and served by the Boston

main streets program, in coordination with local Main Streets organizations and public safety officials”; and in said item by striking out the figures: “100,000” and inserting in place thereof the figures: “1,511,126”;

In item 8100-1001, in line 12, by inserting after the word “parkways” the following: “; provided, that not less than \$1,200,000 shall be expended for the payroll costs of the state police directed patrols; provided further, that not less than \$30,000 shall be expended for troop A to conduct mounted, directed patrols throughout Revere beach, the Lynn Fells and the Middlesex Fells Reservation park among other identified areas; provided further, that subject to appropriation communities receiving funds for directed patrols in fiscal year 2008 shall receive an equal disbursement of funds in proportion to the current appropriation in fiscal year 2024; provided further, that funds shall be expended for directed patrols at Constitution beach in the East Boston section of the city of Boston; provided further, that not less than \$95,000 shall be expended for additional patrols for the summer season at Wollaston beach and Furnace Brook parkway in the city of Quincy; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for the payroll costs of the state police to perform directed patrols and traffic enforcement functions on the Harry Truman parkway, Neponset Valley parkway and Dedham parkway in the Hyde Park section of the city of Boston; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for directed patrols in the South Boston section of the city of Boston including, but not limited to, Day boulevard, Carson beach, M street beach, Marine park and Castle Island; and provided further, that not less than \$95,000 shall be expended for designated seasonal state police patrols in the Wollaston Beach/Quincy Shore Drive area and Furnace Brook parkway of the city of Quincy from May 31 to September 1”; and in said item by striking out the figures: “403,696,893” and inserting in place thereof the figures: “405,066,893”;

In item 8100-1004, in line 10, by inserting after the words “board” the following: “; provided further, that not less than \$250,000 shall be expended for costs associated with forensic genetic genealogy DNA to be used to help solve violent crimes, identify unidentified human remains, process sexual assault evidence kits and support cold case investigations; provided further, that any third-party testing lab shall be vetted and approved by the Massachusetts state police crime lab”; and in said item by striking out the figures: “29,901,640” and inserting in place thereof the figures: “30,151,640”;

In item 8324-0000, in line 43, by inserting after the word “program” the following: “; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for the Holbrook Regional Emergency Communication Center; provided further, that not less than \$1,700,000 shall be expended for the Boston fire department training academy to provide training and instruction for public safety agencies in the city of Boston and municipal and political subdivisions across the commonwealth”; and in said item by striking out the figures: “43,236,398” and inserting in place thereof the figures: “45,036,398”;

In item 8324-0050 by adding the following: “; provided, that not less than \$58,000 shall be expended for the Wales fire department to replace self-contained breathing apparatuses; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for new trailers and bays for the fire department substation in the town of Holden; provided further, that not less than \$75,000 shall be provided to the town of Boxford for the procurement of vehicle stabilizers and UTV for the Boxford fire department; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to the town of Norfolk for emergency medical services patient management and transport equipment; provided further, that not less than \$5,500 shall be expended for medical and trauma

training for paramedics at the fire department in the town of Hanover; provided further, that not less than \$55,000 shall be expended for the city of Quincy for a hazardous materials emergency response program; provided further, that not less than \$20,000 shall be expended to the town of Georgetown for the replacement of equipment in the Georgetown fire department; provided further, that not less than \$20,000 shall be expended to the town of Newbury for a new cardiac monitor and repairs at the Morgan avenue fire station; provided further, that not less than \$20,000 shall be expended to the town of Hamilton for an ambulance; provided further, that not less than \$15,000 shall be expended for training expenses for the Duxbury fire department; provided further, that not less than \$10,000 shall be expended for pediatric and cardiac screening for the Hanson fire department; provided further, that not less than \$10,000 shall be expended for rescue and water rescue training for the Hanson fire department and members of the Massachusetts helicopter aquatic rescue team (HART); provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to the town of Acton for firefighter turnout gear or other related expenses for the Acton fire department; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to the town of Acton for radio equipment for the Acton fire department; provided further, that not less than \$20,000 shall be expended to purchase a utility task vehicle for the Winchendon fire department; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for a municipal grant program administered by the fire marshal for firefighter cancer screenings including advance blood testing and imaging; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for the Fire Chiefs' Association of Plymouth County, Inc. to maintain and upgrade emergency communication systems, to provide for mass casualty and major operations incident planning and training and to enhance mutual aid operations in Plymouth county; provided further, that not less than \$20,000 shall be expended to the town of Randolph's fire department for purposes of a new emergency backup generator at the Randolph fire central station; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to the city of Everett for communications and equipment upgrades for the Everett fire department; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for necessary HVAC improvements to the Norton fire department in the town of Norton; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for body worn cameras for the Sharon police department; provided further, that not less than \$60,000 shall be expended to the Belchertown fire department for the purchase and operation of a utility terrain vehicle; provided further, that not less than \$150,000 shall be expended to the town of Stow for the development of an installation of new firefighting water cisterns; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to the Sandwich fire department for the purchase of gear and equipment; provided further, that not less than \$75,000 shall be expended for design funds for the fire department project in the town of Weston; and provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for the Woburn fire department for capital items"; and in said item by striking out the figures: "100,000" and inserting in place thereof the figures: "1,163,500";

In item 8910-8900, in line 6, by inserting after the word "municipalities" the following: "; provided further, that not less than \$1,500,000 shall be expended for costs associated with Project Evolve at the Suffolk county jail in the city of Boston"; and in said item by striking out the figures: "1,800,000" and inserting in place thereof the figures: "3,300,000"; and

By inserting after section 29 the following 3 sections:

"SECTION 29A. Section 1 of chapter 218 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 282, the words 'Gardner, Petersham, Hubbardston and Westminster' and inserting in place thereof the following words:

Ashburnham, Gardner, Hubbardston, Petersham, Phillipston, Royalston, Templeton, Westminster and Winchendon.

SECTION 29B. Said section 1 of said chapter 218, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by striking out, in lines 307 and 308, the words ‘The district court at Winchendon, held at Winchendon; Winchendon, Ashburnham, Phillipston, Royalston and Templeton’.”.

SECTION 29C. Section 10 of said chapter 218, as so appearing, is hereby amended by adding the following paragraph:

In the district court of East Norfolk, the clerk may designate 1 assistant clerk as an additional first assistant clerk for specialty courts. The salary of said assistant clerk shall be paid by the commonwealth in accordance with the job classification and pay plan established, subject to appropriation by the court administrator.”.

After debate on the question on adoption of the amendments, the sense of the House was taken by yeas and nays, as required under the provisions of House Rule 33F; and on the roll call (Ms. Hogan of Stow being in the Chair) 154 members voted in the affirmative and 2 in the negative.

**[See Yea and Nay No. 40 in Supplement.]**

Therefore the consolidated amendments (public safety, judiciary and housing) were adopted.

At a quarter after two o’clock P.M. (Tuesday, April 29), on motion of Mr. Jones of North Reading (Ms. Hogan of Stow being in the Chair), the House recessed subject to the call of the Chair; and at one minute after four o’clock, the House was called to order with Ms. Hogan in the Chair.

Pending the question on passing the bill, as amended, to be engrossed, Representatives Boldyga of Southwick and Cabral of New Bedford moved to amend it by adding the following section:

“SECTION 84. Notwithstanding any general or special laws to the contrary

Section 1. Definitions

For the purposes of this act: (a) ‘Food product’ shall mean any food, beverage, confectionery, condiment, or dietary supplement intended for human consumption, as defined under MGL Chapter 94, Section 1. (b) “School nutrition program” shall mean any meal, snack, or beverage program administered by a public school, charter school, or school district under MGL Chapter 69, Section 1C, including programs funded by the National School Lunch Program or School Breakfast Program. (c) ‘Synthetic food dye’ shall mean any artificial color additive derived from petroleum or other synthetic sources, as listed in 21 C.F.R. Part 74. (d) “Preservative” shall mean any chemical additive used to extend the shelf life of a food product, including butylated hydroxyanisole (BHA) or propylparaben.

Section 2. Prohibition of Certain Food Additives in School Nutrition Programs

(a) No food product served, sold, or distributed as part of a school nutrition program in the Commonwealth shall contain any of the following synthetic food dyes: (1) Red Dye No. 3 (Erythrosine); (2) Red Dye No. 40 (Allura Red AC); (3) Yellow Dye No. 5 (Tartrazine); (4) Yellow Dye No. 6 (Sunset Yellow FCF); (5) Blue Dye No. 1 (Brilliant Blue FCF); (6) Blue Dye No. 2 (Indigotine); (7) Green Dye No. 3 (Fast Green FCF). (b) The prohibition in subsection (a) shall take effect August 1, 2026. (c) The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, in consultation with the Department of Public Health, shall promulgate regulations to ensure compliance, including guidelines for food procurement and vendor contracts. (d) School districts and food service providers shall maintain records demonstrating compliance, subject to inspection by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Consolidated  
amendments  
adopted,—  
yea and nay  
No. 40.

Recess.

### Section 3. Prohibition of Certain Food Additives in Food Products

(a) No person, corporation, or entity shall manufacture for sale, offer for sale, or distribute within the Commonwealth any food product containing the following additives: (1) Red Dye No. 3 (Erythrosine); (2) Red Dye No. 40 (Allura Red AC); (3) Yellow Dye No. 5 (Tartrazine); (4) Yellow Dye No. 6 (Sunset Yellow FCF); (5) Blue Dye No. 1 (Brilliant Blue FCF); (6) Blue Dye No. 2 (Indigotine); (7) Green Dye No. 3 (Fast Green FCF); (8) Butylated hydroxyanisole (BHA); (9) Propylparaben. (b) The prohibition in subsection (a) shall take effect January 1, 2029. (c) This section shall apply to all food products, including those sold in retail establishments, restaurants, and over-the-counter drugs containing food additives, as defined under MGL Chapter 94, Section 186. (d) The Department of Public Health shall promulgate regulations to enforce this section, including testing protocols, labeling requirements, and exemptions for products in interstate commerce compliant with federal law.

### Section 4. Enforcement and Penalties

(a) The Department of Public Health shall enforce Section 4, and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education shall enforce Section 3, with authority to conduct inspections and issue guidance. (b) Violations of Section 3 or Section 4 shall be subject to: (1) A civil penalty not exceeding \$500 for a first offense; (2) A civil penalty not exceeding \$1,000 for a second or subsequent offense; (3) Injunctions or other equitable relief as determined by a court of competent jurisdiction. (c) Willful violations involving the sale or distribution of prohibited food products with intent to deceive consumers may be prosecuted as a misdemeanor under MGL Chapter 94, Section 187, subject to a fine not exceeding \$500 or imprisonment not exceeding 3 months, or both. (d) The Department of Public Health and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education may issue warnings and provide technical assistance to facilitate compliance before imposing penalties.

### Section 5. Reporting

(a) The Department of Public Health and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education shall jointly submit an annual report to the Joint Committee on Public Health and the Joint Committee on Education, detailing: (1) Compliance rates among school nutrition programs and food vendors; (2) Economic impacts, including effects on food prices and availability; (3) Public health outcomes related to the prohibition of specified additives; (4) Recommendations for further legislative or regulatory action. (b) The first report shall be submitted no later than December 31, 2027, and annually thereafter.

### Section 6. Severability

If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the act that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application.

### Section 7. Effective Date

This act shall take effect upon its passage, with specific prohibitions effective as provided in Sections 3 and 4.”.

The amendment was rejected.

Mr. Michlewitz of Boston and other members of the House then moved, under the provisions of the last sentence of the penultimate paragraph of Rule 20A, to amend the bill in section 2, in item 4125-0100, by adding the following: “; provided, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended to New England Homes for the Deaf, Inc. to provide services to residents and train all staff in American sign language”; and in said item by striking out the figures: “10,616,666” and inserting in place thereof the figures: “10,716,666”;

Consolidated amendments (public health, mental health and disability).

In item 4510-0100 by adding the following: “; and provided further, that not less than \$350,000 shall be expended to support operations and hygiene product acquisition for Hope and Comfort, Inc.”; and in said item by striking out the figures: “38,263,168” and inserting in place thereof the figures: “38,613,168”;

In item 4510-0110, in line 5, by inserting after the following: “254c(f)(1)” the following: “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to the Lowell Community Health Center, Inc.’s residency program for primary care doctors in the city of Lowell to be used for housing stipends for residents; provided further, that not less than \$150,000 shall be expended to Harbor Health Services, Inc. for the planned expansion of its Plymouth Community Health Center; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for the Mattapan Community Health Center, Inc. to support staff retention and recruitment for physicians and dentists to ensure the delivery of patient-centered care in Mattapan, Dorchester, Roxbury and surrounding neighborhoods in the city of Boston; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for Codman Square Health Center, Inc. to support the purchase and operation of a mobile health unit to provide primary care, behavioral health, maternal health and substance use disorder treatment in underserved neighborhoods of Dorchester and surrounding areas in the city of Boston; provided further, that not less than \$250,000 shall be expended for NEW Health - Charlestown for the purpose of operating and maintaining treatment of substance use disorder; provided further, that not less than \$400,000 shall be expended to the North End Waterfront neighborhood health center provided further, that not less than \$125,000 shall be expended for infrastructure and operational upgrades related to expanding access to dental care and primary care services at Geiger Gibson Community Health Center in the Dorchester section of the city of Boston; provided further, that not less than \$15,000 shall be expended to the High Point Treatment Center for the purpose of providing outpatient substance use disorder and mental health services, and programs aiding in men’s mental health care; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for the Public Health Institute of Western Massachusetts to support the 413Cares centralized database of community services in western Massachusetts; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to the Lynn Community Health Center for the operation of the recuperative care center; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for the continuation of a comprehensive substance abuse and narcotic use reduction program at a federally qualified health center located in South Boston”, in lines 6 to 9, inclusive, by striking out the following: “and provided further, that not less than \$1,000,000 shall be expended for the establishment of a Massachusetts gender affirming care access program to provide support to federally qualified health centers specializing in gender affirming care” and inserting in place thereof the following: “and provided further, that not less than \$1,000,000 shall be transferred from this item to the Affirming Health Care Trust Fund established in section 2K of chapter 111 of the General Laws, inserted by section 22 1/2 of this act”; and in said item by striking out the figures: “10,398,660” and inserting in place thereof the figures: “11,838,660”;

In item 4512-0200, in line 67, by inserting after the word “payer” the following: “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for the South Shore Peer Recovery Center to run programs dedicated to creating a safe and supportive space for individuals and families affected by substance use disorders, including but not limited to peer support groups, recovery coaching, family education and community outreach services; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for Community Servings, Inc. for the purposes of providing medically tailored meals to persons battling chronic illnesses and workforce training programs

to those recovering from addiction; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for the Merrimack Valley Prevention and Substance Abuse Project, Inc., for resources, community outreach and programs in the Merrimack Valley; provided further, that not less than \$35,000 shall be expended to the police department in the city of Lynn for its behavioral health unit; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to the Newmarket Business Association, Inc. to support the hiring of a strategy and planning project manager for the Recover Boston program; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for the Boston Bulldogs Running Club to support their mission of providing a safe community for those affected by drug and alcohol addiction; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for the operation of Gavin Foundation Inc.'s behavioral health continuum of substance use care to provide comprehensive treatment for individuals suffering from substance use disorder and other behavioral health challenges; provided further, that not less than \$200,000 shall be expended for the Joseph Nee Collaborative Center for substance use disorder programming"; and in said item by striking out the figures: "194,452,031" and inserting in place thereof the figures: "194,987,031";

In item 4512-0205 by adding the following: "; provided, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to Baystate Health Eastern Region for a grant program to prevent and treat addiction to opioid and related substances; provided further, that not less than \$10,000 shall be expended to support the Bartlett house at Housing Support, Inc.; provided further, that not less than \$175,000 shall be expended to Self Esteem Boston for direct service and provider training programs; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for office-based addiction and opioid treatment, a program of the Greater New Bedford Community Health Center; provided further, that not less than \$75,000 shall be expended for the purposes of the operation of Resources for Recovery Inc., formerly known as the Dennis Messing Memorial Foundation located in the Hyde Park section of the city of Boston; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to the city known as the town of Braintree for Braintree Community Partnership on Substance Use; provided further, that not less than \$200,000 shall be expended for One Life at a Time, Inc., located in the city known as the town of Braintree, for the facilitation of access to sober living programs and job training services for people in recovery and associated operational costs; provided further, that not less than \$2,000,000 shall be expended for RIZE Massachusetts Foundation, Inc. to assist in their work to end the opioid epidemic in the commonwealth; provided further, that not less than \$250,000 shall be expended to Harbor Health Services for a grant program to prevent and treat addiction to opioid and related substances; and provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for continued capital improvements to the Cambridge community center and for the expansion of their community-based behavioral health program"; and in said item by striking out the figures: "100,000" and inserting in place thereof the figures: "2,985,000";

In item 4512-2022, in line 5, by inserting after the word "distribution" the following: "; provided further, that not less than \$30,000 shall be expended for improvements to the Abington public health department"; and in said item by striking out the figures: "9,232,015" and inserting in place thereof the figures: "9,262,015";

In item 4513-1005, in line 12, by inserting after the word "federally" the following: "; provided further, that not less than \$1,660,000 shall be allocated to Action for Boston Community Development, Inc. to continue services previously funded by Title X funding";

In item 4513-1020, in lines 38 through 71, inclusive by striking out the text contained in those lines;

In item 4513-1027 by adding the following: “; provided further, that funds shall be used for suicide prevention services, including, but not limited to, the operation and expansion of Hey Sam, the text-based mental health support line tailored specifically to youth and young adults in the commonwealth, and youth mental health community education, outreach and communications; and provided further, that not less than \$400,000 shall be expended for the expansion and operation of Hey Sam, the text-based mental health support line tailored specifically to youth and young adults in the commonwealth, and youth mental health community education, outreach and communications”; and in said item by striking out the figures: “400,000” and inserting in place thereof the figures: “800,000”;

In item 4513-1098, in line 7, by inserting after the word “violence” the following: “; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended to Survivors Say, Inc. for direct support services to survivors and victims of both high-profile tragedies and other traumas and crimes”; and in said item by striking out the figures: “500,000” and inserting in place thereof the figures: “600,000”;

In item 4513-1112, in line 5, by striking out the word “funds” and inserting in place thereof the following figures: “\$4,297,295”, and in line 23, by inserting after the word “funds” the following: “; provided further, that not less than \$475,000 shall be expended for the Forsyth Institute’s center for children’s oral health to expand its Forsyth kids programming focused on children and adolescents and to explore the emerging association between oral health status and academic performance; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for the operation of the cranberry health research center at the university of Massachusetts – Dartmouth; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for the purposes of the operation of VITfriends located in the Hyde Park section of the city of Boston; provided further, that not less than \$150,000 shall be expended for the ALS Association to provide care services for individuals suffering with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis; provided further, that not less than \$250,000 shall be expended to the Duchenne program at the University of Massachusetts medical school to advance clinical care, research and innovation for patients with complex disorders affecting the human nervous system”; and in said item by striking out the figures: “12,457,534” and inserting in place thereof the figures: “13,557,534”;

In item 4513-1136 by inserting after the following: “25,000 or less” the following: “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for capital improvements to the Berkshire Dream Center for Hope House; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for the Elizabeth Freeman Center, Inc.; provided further, that not less than \$150,000 shall be expended to Portal to Hope Corp. for a community-based domestic violence program that includes a teens-at-risk project for the communities of Everett, Lynn, Malden, Medford and Winthrop; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to the Cape Verdean Association for domestic violence outreach in the city of Brockton; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for the Katie Brown Educational Program for a pilot instructional initiative, the train the trainer program, to train educators and increase the number of southeastern Massachusetts students who acquire invaluable knowledge about the prevention of relationship violence”; and in said item by striking out the figures: “74,786,841” and inserting in place thereof the figures: “75,061,841”;

In item 4590-0250, in line 18, by inserting after the word “programs” the following: “; provided further, that not less than \$40,000 shall be expended for the North Quabbin Community Coalition, Inc.; provided further, that not less than \$30,000 shall be expended to Lunenburg public schools to create enhancements and supplement existing guidance counseling, mental health and special education



delivery”; and in said item by striking out the figures: “22,123,088” and inserting in place thereof the following figures: “22,193,088”;

In item 4590-1503, in line 7, by inserting after the word “program” the following: “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for Junie’s Place, Inc. to provide comprehensive, no-cost grief support services to families enduring the profound loss of a child, infant or pregnancy or experiencing a stillbirth”; and in said item by striking out the figures: “13,149,400” and inserting in place thereof the figures: “13,174,400”;

In item 4590-1507 by adding the following: “; provided, that not less than \$2,000,000 shall be expended to the Massachusetts Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs, Inc.; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to Methuen Youth Basketball Association, Inc. to enhance youth mentorship initiatives, develop robust sports programming and strengthen violence prevention efforts aimed at promoting teamwork, personal development and community engagement among Methuen youth; provided further, that said programming shall prioritize underserved youth and promote life skills that support academic success and leadership; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for Sueños Basketball, Inc. to support the recreational, social and health benefits the league provides to low-income youth in the city of Lawrence; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to Day Dreaming Organization Inc to support baseball programming and youth mentoring in the city of Lawrence; provided further, that not less than \$1,500,000 shall be expended to the Alliance of Massachusetts YMCAs, Inc. that shall be distributed between the alliance’s member organizations to support educational programming for youth; provided further, that the department shall award not less than \$200,000 shall be expended to the Boys and Girls Clubs of MetroWest, Inc. for window replacement; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for upgrades to a pedestrian crossing at the Milford youth center and other renovations or improvements; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to Awake Youth Violence Prevention; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to the Black Springfield COVID-19 Coalition; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to Parent Villages, Inc. youth outreach center; provided further, that not less than \$450,000 shall be expended to the Big Brother Big Sisters of Eastern Massachusetts; provided further, that not less than \$200,000 shall be expended to The Possible Zone to implement an innovative pathways program in clean energy and advanced manufacturing for high schoolers in grades 10 through 12 across the city of Boston creating equitable opportunities for underserved student populations; provided further, that not less than \$150,000 shall be expended to the Mildred C. Hailey development and youth center for staffing, operations, programming, resources, stipends, supplies and events that support youth and young adult residents of the Mildred C. Hailey development; provided further, that not less than \$600,000 shall be expended to the YWCA organizations, which shall be distributed equally between the Alliance of YWCAs member organizations; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Western Massachusetts Inc. to support programs and services provided in Berkshire, Franklin and Hampden counties; provided further, that not less than \$75,000 shall be expended to assist in programming efforts for the Southcoast LGBTQ Network, Inc. in New Bedford; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to Friends and Mentors, Inc. for costs associated with their at-risk youth mentoring programming in the city of Brockton; and provided further, that not less than \$20,000 shall be expended to the town of Randolph for purposes of continued funding for the

town's enhanced social services program"; and in said item by striking out the figures: "7,081,500" and inserting in place thereof the figures: "12,651,500";

In item 5042-5000, in line 38, by inserting after the word "location" the following: "; provided further, that not less than \$75,000 shall be expended for Shrewsbury Youth and Family Services in the town of Shrewsbury to provide mental health services in the commonwealth; provided further, that not less than \$75,000 shall be expended to Boston Community Pediatrics to support the Integrated Behavioral Health program; provided further, that not less than \$250,000 shall be expended to The Nan Project to increase mental health awareness and suicide prevention; provided further, that department case manager staffing levels shall not be reduced below fiscal year 2025 case manager staffing levels"; and in said item by striking out the figures: "128,586,476" and inserting in place thereof the figures: "128,986,476";

In item 5046-0000, in line 15, by inserting after the year: "2025" the following: "; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to the Malden police department to support mental health emergency crisis response in Malden, including, but not limited to, funding for a mental health clinician, trainings for officers in de-escalation, negotiation, integrating communications, assessment, and tactics (ICAT) and other non-lethal response techniques and additional resources; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for a grant to the Massachusetts chapter of the National Association of Social Workers, Inc. to provide assistance in connecting consumers to licensed clinical social workers through the Therapy Matcher program; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for the behavioral health unit for the Dracut-Tyngsborough-Tewksbury-Chelmsford-Billerica police departments to support mental health emergency crisis response in these 5 communities, including, but not limited to, funding for a mental health clinician, trainings for officers in de-escalation, negotiation, integrating communications, assessment, and tactics (ICAT) and other non-lethal response techniques and additional resources; provided further, that department case manager staffing levels shall not be reduced below fiscal year 2025 case manager staffing levels"; and in said item by striking out the figures: "661,933,895" and inserting in place thereof the figures: "664,608,895";

In item 5095-0015, in line 14, by inserting after the word "facility" the following: "provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to improve the mental health rooms at the Cape Cod and Islands community health center in Pocasset"; and in said item by striking out the figures "376,149,057" and inserting in place thereof the figures: "376,199,057";

In item 5911-1003, in line 18, by inserting after the word "transfer" the following: "; provided further, that not less than \$150,000 shall be expended for Operation House Call at the Arc of Massachusetts to maintain and expand training to medical students and other graduate level health care professionals to work with individuals with autism and other developmental and intellectual disabilities; provided further, that not less than \$125,000 shall be expended for Latham Centers, Inc. to address urgent technology upgrades to security, programs and support services for children and adult residents with complex disabilities; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for the city of Everett for the increase of accessibility to services for neurodivergent residents and their families; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for Community Teamwork Inc. for the purpose of operating programs promoting children's behavioral health and educational success"; and in said item by striking out the figures: "105,945,417" and inserting in place thereof the figures: "106,370,417";

In item 5911-2000, in line 3, by inserting after the word “need” the following: “; and provided further, that not less than \$20,000 shall be expended for the town of Great Barrington for south county connector to support microtransit services in Berkshire county”; and in said item by striking out the figures: “47,172,062” and inserting in place thereof the figures: “47,192,062”;

In item 5920-3000 by adding the following: “; provided, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for Friendship Home, Inc. to provide programming for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families, including, but not limited to, quality respite care, social and recreational programs and family support services in a safe and caring environment”; and in said item by striking out the figures: “123,925,257” and inserting in place thereof the figures: “123,950,257”;

By inserting after section 22 the following section:

“SECTION 22½. Chapter 111 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 2J the following section:

Section 2K. (a) As used in this section, the term ‘gender-affirming health care services’ shall, unless the context clearly requires otherwise, mean all supplies, care and services of a medical, behavioral health, mental health, surgical, psychiatric, therapeutic, diagnostic, preventative, rehabilitative or supportive nature relating to the treatment of gender dysphoria.

(b) There shall be established and set up on the books of the commonwealth an expendable trust account known as the Affirming Health Care Trust Fund. The fund shall be administered by the commissioner. The fund shall be credited with: (i) appropriations or other money authorized by the general court and specifically designated to be credited to the fund; (ii) funds from public or private sources, including, but not limited to, gifts, grants, donations, rebates and settlements; (iii) interest earned on amounts in the fund; and (iv) any funds provided from other sources.

(c) Amounts credited to the fund shall be expended, without further appropriation, for gender-affirming health care services, including at institutions over which the commissioner has supervision and control pursuant to section 69E; provided, that the commissioner may also expend money in the fund to cover costs of medical malpractice liability and general liability insurance for health care providers involved in the provision of gender-affirming health care services and to support research relating to LGBTQ+ health promotion and gender-affirming health care services. The unexpended balance in the fund at the end of the fiscal year shall remain available for expenditure in subsequent fiscal years. No expenditure from the fund shall cause the fund to be in a deficit at any point.

(d) Annually, not later than October 1, the department shall report to the clerks of the house of representatives and the senate, the house and senate committees on ways and means and the joint committee on health care financing on the fund’s activity. The report shall include, but shall not be limited to: (i) money received by the fund; (ii) anticipated amounts to be deposited into the fund for the forthcoming fiscal year; (iii) projections for expenditures in the forthcoming fiscal year; (iv) details of all expenditures from the fund; and (v) results from any research efforts supported by the fund.”;

By inserting after section 67A (inserted by amendment) the following section:

“SECTION 67B. (a) There shall be established a special legislative commission, pursuant to section 2A of chapter 4 of the General Laws, to conduct a comprehensive investigation and study into the future of the Pappas Rehabilitation Hospital for Children, as designated in chapter 87 of the acts of 2016, formerly known as the Massachusetts hospital school. The investigation and study shall include, but shall not

be limited to, a review of the hospital's finances, programs, pediatric services and infrastructure.

(b) The special legislative commission shall be comprised of: the chairs of the joint committee on public health, who shall serve as co-chairs; 1 member appointed by the president of the senate; 1 member appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives; the commissioner of the department of public health, or their designee; the commissioner of the department of elementary and secondary education, or their designee; the commissioner of the division of capital asset management and maintenance, or their designee; and 6 members to be appointed by the governor, 1 of whom shall be recommended by the select board of the town of Canton, 1 of whom shall be the parent of a current patient at the Pappas Rehabilitation Hospital for Children, 1 of whom shall be a member of the Massachusetts Nurses Association currently employed at the Pappas Rehabilitation Hospital for Children, 1 of whom shall be a member of the Service Employees International Union currently employed at the Pappas Rehabilitation Hospital for Children, 1 of whom shall be a pediatrician licensed to practice medicine in the commonwealth and 1 of whom shall be a person with experience in health care finance and management.

(c) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, services provided to patients of the Pappas Rehabilitation Hospital for Children shall not be reduced or eliminated, nor shall the Pappas Rehabilitation Hospital for Children be closed or consolidated with any other facility until the completion of the report pursuant to subsection (d).

(d) The special legislative commission shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations, if any, to the clerks of the house of representatives and the senate not later than December 31, 2026.”.

After debate on the question on adoption of the amendments, the sense of the House was taken by yeas and nays, as required under the provisions of House Rule 33F; and on the roll call 134 members voted in the affirmative and 21 in the negative.

**[See [Yea and Nay No. 41](#) in Supplement.]**

[Mr. Hunt of Boston answered “Present” in response to his name.]

Therefore the consolidated amendments (public health, mental health and disability) were adopted.

At twenty-eight minutes before five o'clock P.M. (Tuesday, April 29), on motion of Mr. Jones of North Reading (Ms. Hogan of Stow being in the Chair), the House recessed subject to the call of the Chair; and at fifteen minutes before eight o'clock, the House was called to order with Mr. Donato of Medford in the Chair.

Pending the question on passing the bill, as amended, to be engrossed, Representatives Lombardo of Billerica, Pease of Westfield and Boldyga of Southwick then moved to amend it by adding the following section:

“SECTION 84. Section 76 of chapter 54 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking the section in its entirety and inserting in place thereof the following:

(a) Each voter desiring to vote at a polling place shall give his name and, if requested, his residence to one of the officers at the entrance to the space within the guard rail, who shall thereupon distinctly announce the same. If such name is found on the voting list, the election officer shall check and repeat the name valid State or Federal photo identification prior to receiving a ballot. The officer shall verify the voter's identification matches the name and residence with the voting list. If verified, the officer and shall admit the voter to the space enclosed by the guard rail and, in case official ballots, other than those marked ‘Challenged Ballots’ as provided by section thirty-five A, are used, such voter shall be given one ballot. The use of

Consolidated  
amendments  
adopted,—  
yea and nay  
No. 41.

Recess.

electronic means such as tape recording equipment or radio broadcasting equipment for the recording or broadcasting of the names of voters not yet checked as having voted shall be prohibited.

(b) A valid government-issued photo identification shall include, but not be limited to:

(i) A Massachusetts driver's license or state identification card issued by the Registry of Motor Vehicles;

(ii) A United States passport;

(iii) A United States military identification card;

(iv) A Massachusetts-issued firearm identification card;

(v) Any other federal or state government-issued identification card that includes a photograph of the voter.

(c) The Secretary of the Commonwealth shall implement a program to provide, at no cost, a Massachusetts photo identification card for voting purposes to any registered voter who does not possess a valid form of photo identification and who signs an affidavit affirming such.

(d) The Secretary of the Commonwealth shall develop and distribute information to the public regarding the requirements of this section, and shall provide training and guidance to election officials to ensure uniform implementation of the law.

(e) This section shall take effect on January 1, 2026."

Pending the question on adoption of the amendment, Mr. Hunt of Boston asked for a count of the House to ascertain if a quorum was in attendance. A count showed that 81 members were in attendance.

Therefore a quorum was present.

After debate on the question on adoption of the amendment, the sense of the House was taken by yeas and nays, at the request of Mr. Lombardo of Billerica; and on the roll call 25 members voted in the affirmative and 131 in the negative.

**[See [Yea and Nay No. 42](#) in Supplement.]**

Therefore the amendment was rejected.

Mr. Michlewitz of Boston and other members of the House then moved, under the provisions of the last sentence of the penultimate paragraph of Rule 20A, to amend the bill in section 2, in item 0511-0200, in line 5, by striking out the words "and provided further" and inserting in place thereof the words "provided further", by adding the following: "; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for the National Lancers for the acquisition of a tractor needed to maintain fields they manage for the commonwealth; and provided further, that not less than \$10,000 shall be expended for the Haverhill Veteran Alliance to support Haverhill veterans"; and in said item by striking out the figures: "879,130" and inserting in place thereof the figures: "914,130";

In item 0526-0100 by adding the following: "; provided, that not less than \$75,000 shall be expended for Black History in Action for Cambridgeport, Inc in the city of Cambridge"; and in said item by striking out the figures: "1,153,624" and inserting in place thereof the figures: "1,228,624";

In item 0640-0300, in line 11, by inserting after the word "unit" the following: "; provided further, that not less than \$20,000 shall be expended for ADA accessibility upgrades at the Albion Cultural Exchange in the town of Wakefield; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for the Springfield Symphony Orchestra to support diverse concert performances, increased outreach and youth education opportunities as well as deferred maintenance, staffing and concert support materials to enhance community engagement and reach underserved and economically challenged students; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall

Quorum.

Amendment  
rejected,—  
yea and nay  
No. 42.

Consolidated  
amendments  
(constitutional  
officers and state  
administration and  
transportation).

be expended for South Shore Art Center, Inc. to build institutional capacity to broaden community impact; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for the artists community assistance program to be administered by the Allston Village Main Streets of Boston; provided further, that not less than \$20,000 shall be expended for the Special Needs Arts Programs Inc. of Lexington to support a part-time assistant music director and develop recorded classes to be used in group homes and day programs; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to the Children's Museum of Franklin; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for the Franklin Performing Arts Company, Inc.; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for Three Saints, Inc., in the city of Lawrence to support community services and promote Italian heritage; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for East Somerville Main Streets in the city of Somerville; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for the historic Cyrus E. Dallin Art Museum; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for the Boston Ballet; provided further, that not less than \$15,000 shall be expended for the Woods Hole Film Festival for operations and programming; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for Cogswell ArtSpace in Haverhill to complete the installation of fire-rated walls required by code; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for The Frederick Douglass Neighborhood Association for community programming in the city of Brockton; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for the African American Association of Brockton for community programming in the city of Brockton"; and in said item by striking out the figures: "26,045,152" and inserting in place thereof the figures: "26,775,152";

In item 0810-1205 by adding the following: "; and provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for the SAFE Coalition Incorporated to provide support, education, treatment options and coping mechanisms for those affected by substance use disorder in the city known as the town of Franklin"; and in said item by striking out the figures: "2,738,897" and inserting in place thereof the figures: "2,838,897";

In item 0930-0100, in line 6, by inserting after the word "resources" the following: "provided further, that not less than \$250,000 shall be expended to the university of Massachusetts memorial medical center for a hospital-based comprehensive child protection program"; and in said item by striking out the figures: "4,084,063" and inserting in place thereof the figures: "4,334,063";

In item 1599-0026 by adding the following: "; provided further, that not less than \$10,000 shall be expended for repair, maintenance and improvements to the sewer system in the town of Swansea; provided further, that not less than \$30,000 shall be expended for the town of Rutland to conduct a study on the feasibility of establishing or joining a regional fire district; provided further, that not less than \$90,000 shall be expended for the creation of John J. Lightizer Memorial park in the town of Norwood; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for Norwood high school to retrofit its decommissioned ambulance to create an ambulance simulator to provide emergency medical services training and education; provided further, that not less than \$75,000 shall be expended for the Friends of Reggie Wong park; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to the town of Groveland for a comprehensive market analysis and feasibility study for 46 Washington street; provided further, that not less than \$20,000 shall be expended to the town of Rowley for a stormwater runoff collection and abatement system at the town landing to address significant erosion into the Rowley river required for the town to comply with state and federal stormwater regulations; provided further, that not less than \$25,000

shall be expended for the Oakham town hall feasibility study; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for the Brookfield town hall improvements; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for paving and repairing the town of Norton's police station parking lot; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for Action for Boston Community Development, Inc. North End; provided further, that not less than \$20,000 shall be expended to the town of Ipswich to research and design wastewater treatment plant infrastructure improvements to meet federal compliance standards for the essential clamming and shell fishing industry; provided further, that not less than \$30,000 shall be expended to the town of Townsend for the completion of the fitness court project; provided further, that not less than \$8,000 shall be expended for the Spencer historical records preservations; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for an engineering study, remediation plan and improvements to the town of Foxborough's drainage system; provided further, that not less than \$60,000 shall be expended for the town of Essex for a study relative to bridges in the town; provided further, that not less than \$40,000 shall be expended for the town of Rockport for a sewer pump station alarm/monitoring system; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for capital improvements to Linden park in the city of Malden, including, but not limited to, design, engineering and construction; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to the city of Malden for flood mitigation and storm water infrastructure improvements including, but not limited to, the cleaning and maintenance of the Town Line brook and Linden brook culverts; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for capital improvements to Pittsfield old town hall; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for a police cruiser for the city of Melrose; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for the town of Danvers for pedestrian and bicycle safety improvements; provided further, that not less than \$20,000 shall be expended for repair and maintenance, including asbestos removal, of historic structures in Douglas; provided further, that not less than \$15,000 shall be expended for upgrades and improvements to public works equipment such as purchasing and repairing equipment including, but not limited to, a front-end loader or backhoe in Millville; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for repairs and upgrades to the police department, senior center and town hall in the town of Dudley; provided further, that not less than \$5,000 shall be expended for the South Attleboro Lions for wheelchair ramp parts to assist veterans and others in need; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to redesign the Tufts park playground in the city of Medford; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for rehabilitation of the women veterans park in the city of Marlborough; provided further, that not less than \$75,000 shall be expended to the city of Framingham for the construction of ADA-compliant customer service counters in the Framingham memorial building; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to the town of Ayer for costs related to a new senior center; provided further, that not less than \$15,000 shall be expended to install 2 rectangular rapid flashing beacons at uncontrolled, marked crosswalks to accompany a pedestrian warning sign in Newton; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for the town of Marblehead for repairs to the irrigation system and deteriorating structures at Marblehead cemeteries; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for Bay Village Neighborhood Association, Inc; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to the town of Pembroke for improvements at the Pembroke public library; provided further, that not less than \$75,000 shall be expended to the town of Westborough, for repairing or replacing the Piccadilly Brook bridge, securing and restoring the affected part of

Piccadilly brook as it enters into the Sandra Birch reservoir, restoring affected recreational areas and other costs pertaining thereto; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to the town of Southborough, in support of purchasing and upgrading equipment required to host hybrid meetings; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to the town of Rehoboth for the remediation, testing and supplies for water systems contaminated by per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances, as well as the installation and maintenance of filtration systems in residents' homes; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to the town of Walpole for a front line department of public works truck; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended to the city known as the town of Barnstable for the downtown Hyannis pedestrian improvements projects including the great streets project and the installation of a new traffic signal at the Barnstable high school entrance on West Main street; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for the Boston Chinatown Post 328 Association; provided further, that not less than \$125,000 shall be expended for the city of Gloucester for improvements to wireless public safety; provided further, that not less than \$150,000 shall be expended for the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission and the Franklin Regional Council of Governments to develop a water plan in the pioneer valley to identify water sources and assess capacity of aquifers, public water system infrastructure and private wells communications; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for the Belchertown Little League, Inc. for field renovations; provided further, that not less than \$75,000 shall be expended to the city of Greenfield for maintenance vehicle upgrades; provided further, that not less than \$75,000 shall be expended to the town of Shelburne for playground improvements; provided further, that not less than \$150,000 shall be expended for the Rose Kennedy Greenway Conservancy; provided further, that not less than \$200,000 shall be expended to the town of Stoneham to provide assistance and services to seniors; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to the city of Peabody for efforts to acquire and integrate a new public water supply; and provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to Alewife Neighbors, Inc. for independent asbestos monitoring"; and in said item by striking out the figures: "6,899,999" and inserting in place thereof the figures: "9,612,999";

In item 1410-0400 by striking out the following: "8892 in the town of Stoughton" (inserted by amendment) and inserting in place thereof the following: "8892 in the town of Avon";

In item 4800-0038, in line 16, by inserting after the year: "2013" the following: ";; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended to the Jewish Family and Children's Service, Inc.'s Center for Early Relationship Support including for the Fragile Beginnings program, Project Newborns exposed to substances: support and therapy and related clinical and community services for vulnerable families with children from birth to age 5; provided further, that not less than \$350,000 shall be expended to Italian Home for Children, Inc.; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for Julie's Family Learning Program, Inc. for programming and services to help women break the cycle of poverty";

In item 7000-9401, in line 16, by inserting after the word "commonwealth" the following: ";; provided further, that not less than \$75,000 shall be expended for the Worcester public library to provide funding and support staff for the library in every classroom project"; and in said item by striking out the figures: "19,000,000" and inserting in place thereof the figures: "19,075,000";

In item 7004-0104 by striking out the figures: "8,390,000" and inserting in place thereof the figures: "8,890,000";



In section 2E, in item 1595-6368, in line 16, by striking out the words “and provided further” and inserting in place thereof the following: “provided further”, by adding the following: “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for the continuation of a pedestrian safety program in the Brighton business district of the city of Boston to be administered by Brighton Main Streets, Inc.; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for the senior taxi program in the city of Somerville; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for the construction of a 6 foot tall privacy fence bordering the perimeter of the Oak Ledge Heights manufactured housing community at 161 Newbury street in the city of Peabody; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for The Longwood Collective, Inc. to conduct a study analyzing the impact of streetscape changes on emergency vehicle usage and impacts on emergency response efficiency and public transit reliability within and surrounding the Longwood medical and academic area; and provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for maintenance and improvements to the land along route 16 between Seagrave road and Columbus avenue in the city of Cambridge”; and in said item by striking out the figures: “577,620,163” and inserting in place thereof the figures: “577,845,163”;

In item 1595-6369, in line 18, by inserting after the word “services” the following: “; provided further, that not less than \$1,300,000 of said funds shall be expended for the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority to operate a demonstration of ferry service between Lewis wharf mall in the East Boston section of the city of Boston, Long wharf in the North End section of the city of Boston and a new stop to be created in the Seaport section of the city of Boston; provided further, that said ferry service shall run from April 1, 2025 to November 30, 2025, inclusive, and then run service again from April 1, 2026 until November 30, 2026, inclusive; provided further, that the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority shall conduct a capital assessment of expanded hours of operation and additional ferry stops within the inner Boston harbor, including, but not limited to, Liberty plaza in the East Boston section of the city of Boston; provided further, that the Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority shall report on the number of passengers who utilize said service to the house and senate committees on ways and means not later than January 31, 2026”;

By inserting after section 13 the following section:

“SECTION 13A. Said chapter 29 is hereby further amended by inserting after section 2JJJJJ, inserted by section 7 of chapter 248 of the acts of 2024, the following section:

Section 2KKKKKK. (a) There is hereby established in the office of the state treasurer a separate, non-budgeted special revenue fund known as the Massachusetts Secure Choice Savings Fund which shall be administered by the state treasurer. The fund shall be credited with: (i) money from the payment of fees, penalties and other payments due to the Massachusetts secure choice savings program established in section 64H; (ii) appropriations or other money authorized or transferred by the general court and specifically designated to be credited to the fund and any funds appropriated by the federal or local governments; (iii) private contributions and publicly or privately-funded grants; and (iv) any interest earned on the assets of the fund. Monies in the fund that are unexpended at the end of the fiscal year shall not revert to the General Fund and shall be available for expenditure in the subsequent fiscal year. Section 38 shall not apply to any investment of the fund.

(b) The fund shall cover all expenses associated with the administration of the Massachusetts secure choice savings program not otherwise covered by the program, including, but not limited to, expenses related to program compliance and oversight responsibilities.

(c) The Massachusetts secure choice savings board, as established in section 64G, shall establish guidelines regarding administration of the fund.”;

By inserting after section 16 the following 3 sections:—

SECTION 16A. Section 64E of said chapter 29, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 5, the figure “20” and inserting in place thereof the following figure: 100.

SECTION 16B. Said section 64E of said chapter 29, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by adding the following subsection:

(g) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the treasurer, or a designee, may seek to reduce operating expenses for the plan through private donation or grants, including, but not limited to, direct and indirect fundraising.

SECTION 16C. Said chapter 29 is hereby further amended by inserting after section 64E the following 5 sections:

Section 64F. For the purposes of this section and sections 64G through 64J, inclusive, the following words shall, unless the context clearly requires otherwise, have the following meanings:

“Board”, the Massachusetts secure choice savings board established pursuant to section 64G.

“Code”, as defined in section 1 of chapter 62.

“Commissioner”, the commissioner of revenue.

“Department”, the department of revenue.

“Employee”, any individual who: (i) is 18 years of age or older; (ii) is employed by an employer; and (iii) has wages that are allocable to the commonwealth during a calendar year under chapter 62.

“Employer”, a person or entity engaged in a business, industry, profession, trade or other enterprise in the commonwealth, whether for-profit or not-for-profit, that has: (i) at no time during the previous calendar year employed fewer than 25 employees in the commonwealth; (ii) been in business not less than 2 years; and (iii) not offered a qualified retirement plan, including, but not limited to, a plan qualified under sections 401(a), 401(k), 403(a), 403(b), 408(k), 408(p) or 457(b) of the Code in the preceding 2 calendar years.

“Enrollee”, any employee or former employee who is enrolled in the program.

“Fund”, the Massachusetts Secure Choice Savings Fund, established pursuant to section 2KKKKKK.

“IRA”, an individual retirement account that is either a: (i) Roth IRA, under section 408A of the Code; or (ii) individual retirement account under section 408 of the Code.

“Participating employer”, an employer that provides a payroll deposit retirement savings arrangement as provided for by section 64I for its employees who are enrolled in the program.

“Payroll deposit retirement savings arrangement”, an arrangement by which a participating employer allows enrollees to remit payroll deduction contributions to the program.

“Program”, the Massachusetts secure choice savings program, established pursuant to section 64H.

“Wages”, any compensation within the meaning of section 219(f)(1) of the Code that is received by an enrollee from a participating employer during the calendar year.

Section 64G. (a)(1) There is hereby established the Massachusetts secure choice savings board. The board shall consist of the following 5 members: the state treasurer or a designee, who shall serve as chair; the comptroller or a designee; the secretary of the commonwealth or a designee; a public representative with expertise in retirement

savings plan administration or investment, or both, who is representative of participating employees, appointed by the governor; and a public representative with expertise in retirement savings plan administration or investment, or both, who is representative of participating employers, appointed by the state treasurer.

(2) Each member shall be appointed for a term of 4 years; provided, however, that the public representative of employers shall be appointed initially for a term of 3 years; and provided further, that all members shall be eligible for reappointment. A vacancy in the term of an appointed board member shall be filled for the balance of the unexpired term in the same manner as the original appointment. Members of the board shall serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties.

(3) The board may appoint or engage agents. The board, the individual members of the board, any other agents appointed or engaged by the board and all persons serving as program staff shall discharge their duties with respect to the program solely in the interest of the program's enrollees and beneficiaries.

(b) The board shall be responsible for ongoing fiduciary administrative oversight of the program for the purpose of promoting greater retirement savings for private-sector employees in a convenient, low-cost and portable manner, pursuant to paragraph (1) of subsection (a) of section 64H.

(c) The board shall report annually to the state treasurer, governor, comptroller, secretary of the commonwealth and the house and senate committees on ways and means. The report shall include, but shall not be limited to: (i) an audited financial report, prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles; (ii) a summary of the benefits provided by the program, including the number of enrollees; and (iii) the percentage and amounts of investment options and rates of return.

(d) All agencies of the commonwealth shall cooperate as requested by the board in the performance of their duties under this section, including, unless otherwise prohibited, the sharing of relevant data as the parties shall mutually agree.

Section 64H. (a) There is hereby established in the office of the state treasurer the Massachusetts secure choice savings program, subject to appropriation. The program shall be developed and administered by the state treasurer with ongoing fiduciary administrative oversight provided by the board for the purpose of promoting greater retirement savings for private-sector employees in a convenient, low-cost and portable manner.

(b)(1) The state treasurer shall design, establish and operate the program in a manner that: (i) accords with best practices for retirement savings vehicles; (ii) maximizes participation, savings and sound investment practices; (iii) maximizes simplicity, including ease of administration for participating employers and enrollees; (iv) provides an efficient product to enrollees by pooling investment funds; and (v) ensures the portability of benefits.

(2) The state treasurer and the department shall maintain, on their websites, information for employers on the requirements of the program and information on retirement plans an employer may offer as an alternative to the program, including, but not limited to, a defined benefit plan, 401(k) plan, a Simplified Employee Pension (SEP) plan or a Savings Incentive Match Plan for Employees (SIMPLE) plan.

(c) The state treasurer shall request, in writing, an opinion or ruling from the appropriate entity with jurisdiction over the federal Employee Retirement Income Security Act regarding the applicability of the federal Employee Retirement Income Security Act to the program. The state treasurer shall not implement the program if the IRA arrangements offered under the program fail to qualify for the favorable federal income tax treatment ordinarily accorded to IRAs under the Code or if it is

determined that the program is an employee benefit plan and state or employer liability is established under the federal Employee Retirement Income Security Act.

(d) The state treasurer shall prepare a written statement of investment policy that includes a risk management and oversight program for consideration and adoption by the board.

(e) The state treasurer may contract with practitioners, administrators, investment managers and other entities to design, administer and provide investment options under the program. Any practitioner, administrator, investment manager or other entity with which the state treasurer contracts shall comply with all applicable federal and state laws, rules and regulations and all rules, policies and guidelines promulgated by the board with respect to the program and the investment of the fund, including, but not limited to, the investment policy. Any practitioner, administrator, investment manager or other entity with which the state treasurer contracts shall provide such reports as the board deems necessary to assess performance.

(f) The state treasurer shall assess the feasibility of multistate or regional agreements to administer the program through shared administrative and operational resources and may enter into those agreements if deemed beneficial to the program.

(g)(1) The commonwealth, the board, each member of the board or other commonwealth official, other commonwealth boards, commissions or agencies, or any member, officer or employee thereof, and the program: (i) shall have no responsibility for compliance by individuals with the conditions and other provisions of the Code that determine which individuals are eligible to make tax-favored contributions to IRAs, in what amount and in what time frame and manner; (ii) shall have no duty, responsibility or liability to any party for the payment of any benefits under the program, regardless of whether sufficient funds are available under the program to pay such benefits; (iii) do not and shall not guarantee any interest rate or other rate of return on or investment performance of any contribution or account balance; and (iv) are not and shall not be liable or responsible for any loss, deficiency, failure to realize any gain or any other adverse consequences, including, but not limited to, any adverse tax consequences or loss of favorable tax treatment, public assistance or other benefits incurred by any person as a result of participating in the program.

(2) The debts, contracts and obligations of the program shall not be considered the debts, contracts and obligations of the commonwealth, and neither the faith and credit nor the taxing power of the commonwealth shall be pledged directly or indirectly to the payment of the debts, contracts and obligations of the program.

(3) Participating employers shall not have any liability for an employee's decision to participate in, or opt out of, the program or for the investment decisions of the board or of any enrollee.

(4) A participating employer shall not be a fiduciary, or considered to be a fiduciary, over the program. A participating employer shall not bear responsibility for the administration, investment options or investment performance of the program. A participating employer shall not be liable with regard to investment returns, program design and benefits paid to program participants.

(h) All agencies of the commonwealth shall cooperate as requested by the state treasurer in the performance of their duties under this section, including, unless otherwise prohibited, the sharing of relevant data as the parties shall mutually agree.

Section 64I. (a)(1) Each employer shall establish a payroll deposit retirement savings arrangement to allow each employee to participate in the program on a timeline set by the board.

(2) Employers shall automatically enroll each employee, who has not opted out of participation, in the program and shall provide payroll deduction retirement savings arrangements and deposit, on behalf of each such employee, these funds into the program.

(3) Employers shall retain the option at all times to set up any type of employer-sponsored retirement plan, including, but not limited to, a defined benefit plan, a 401(k), a Simplified Employee Pension (SEP) plan or a Savings Incentive Match Plan for Employees (SIMPLE) plan, instead of having a payroll deposit retirement savings arrangement to allow employee participation in the program.

(b)(1) Enrollees shall have the ability to: (i) select a contribution level into the fund; or (ii) opt out of participation in the program. The contribution level may be expressed as a percentage of wages or as a dollar amount up to the deductible amount for the enrollee's taxable year under section 219(b)(1)(A) of the Code. Enrollees may change their contribution level at any time and that election shall be honored as soon as administratively feasible. If an enrollee fails to select a contribution level using the form prescribed, the enrollee shall contribute the default contribution rate of 6 per cent, with an annual escalation of 1 per cent and up to 10 per cent, of their wages to the program.

(2) Enrollees may select an investment option from the permitted investment options available under the program. Enrollees may change their investment option at any time. If an enrollee fails to select an investment option, the enrollee shall be placed in a qualified default investment alternative specified by the program.

(3) An enrollee may terminate their participation in the program at any time in a manner prescribed by the program.

Section 64J. (a) An employer who fails without reasonable cause to enroll an employee, who has not elected out of participation, in the program within the time prescribed by the state treasurer, in consultation with the department, shall be subject to a penalty equal to:

(i) \$250 for each employee for each calendar year or portion of a calendar year during which the employee neither was enrolled in the program nor had elected out of participation in the program, and the employee or any appropriate official of the commonwealth may bring a civil action to require the employer to enroll the employee and shall recover such costs and reasonable attorney's fees as may be allowed by the court; and

(ii) for each calendar year beginning after the date a penalty has been assessed with respect to an employee, \$500 for any portion of that calendar year during which such employee continues to be unenrolled without electing out of participation in the program, and the employee or any appropriate official of the commonwealth may bring a civil action to require the employer to enroll the employee and shall recover such costs and reasonable attorney's fees as may be allowed by the court.

(b) No penalty shall be imposed under subsection (a) for any failure for which it is established that the employer, subject to liability for the penalty, did not know that the failure existed and exercised reasonable diligence to meet the requirements of this section or where:

(i) the employer subject to liability for the penalty exercised reasonable diligence to meet those requirements; and

(ii) the employer complies with those requirements with respect to each employee by the end of the 90-day period beginning on the first date the employer knew, or exercising reasonable diligence would have known, that the failure existed.

(c) In the case of a failure that is due to reasonable cause and not to willful neglect, all or part of the penalty may be waived to the extent that the payment of the penalty would be excessive or otherwise inequitable relative to the failure involved.

(d) If a participating employer fails to transmit a payroll deduction contribution to the program on the earliest date the amount withheld from the enrollee's compensation may reasonably be segregated from the participating employer's assets, but not later than the 15th day of the month following the month in which the enrollee's contribution amounts are withheld from their paycheck, the failure to remit such contributions on a timely basis shall be subject to the same sanctions as employer misappropriation of employee wage withholdings, including those pursuant to sections 148 and 150 of chapter 149 and to the penalties specified in subsection (a).

(e) Except as provided in this subsection, all information received by the department from returns filed by an employer or from any investigation conducted under this section shall be confidential, except for official purposes within the department or pursuant to official procedures for collection of penalties assessed under this section. Nothing contained in this section shall prevent the commissioner from publishing or making available to the public reasonable statistics concerning the operation of this section wherein the contents of returns are grouped into aggregates in such a way that the specific information of any employer shall not be disclosed. Nothing contained in this section shall prevent the commissioner from divulging information to an authorized representative of the employer or to any person pursuant to a request or authorization made by the employer or by an authorized representative of the employer.

(f) Civil penalties and fees collected under this section shall be deposited into the fund.

(g) The department may promulgate rules and regulations as necessary or proper for the administration and enforcement of this section.

In section 17, in line 144, by striking out the words "so appearing" and inserting in place thereof the following: "appearing in the 2022 Official Edition";

By inserting after section 18 the following section:

"SECTION 18A. The definition of 'Teacher' in said section 1 of said chapter 32, as so appearing, is hereby amended by adding the following sentence: Any person who served in a position described above who is vested in the teachers' retirement system or the Boston retirement system and is subsequently employed by the executive office of education or the department of elementary and secondary education shall retain the status of teacher and shall be considered as remaining in service in that capacity.";

By inserting after section 20 the following 2 sections:

"SECTION 20A. Paragraph (a) of subdivision (8) of section 3 of said chapter 32, as so appearing, is hereby amended by adding the following sentence: A teacher who becomes employed at the executive office of education or the department of elementary and secondary education shall remain in the teachers' retirement system or the Boston retirement system.

SECTION 20B. Said subdivision (8) of said section 3 of said chapter 32, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by adding the following 2 paragraphs:

(e) An employee of the executive office of education or the department of elementary and secondary education who is a member of the state employees' retirement system and who is reinstated in the teachers' retirement system or the Boston retirement system pursuant to paragraph (a) shall not be deemed to have had an interruption of membership or service. Upon reinstatement, the member shall pay into the annuity savings fund of the teachers' retirement system or the Boston

retirement system in 1 sum, or in installments as the board may prescribe, makeup payments equal to the difference between the contributions paid to the state employees retirement system and the required contributions of the teachers' retirement system or the Boston retirement system on all regular compensation received during the period of membership in the state employees' retirement system.

(f) Notwithstanding the provisions of this chapter or any other general or special law to the contrary, a member who is reinstated in the teachers' retirement system or the Boston retirement system pursuant to paragraph (a) shall be entered into the state employees' retirement system as a group 1 state employee upon retirement.”;

By inserting after section 21 the following 2 sections:

“SECTION 21A. Section 1 of chapter 55 of the General Laws, as amended by section 181 of chapter 238 of the acts of 2024, is hereby further amended by inserting before the definition of ‘Ballot question committee’ the following definition:

‘Adult-care services’, care services provided to a candidate’s parent or other adult dependent, including, but not limited to, caregiving services by an individual or nonprofit or for-profit organization that provides such services and any other costs directly related to such services that occur as a result of campaign activities; provided, however, that expenses related to adult-care services shall not include payments to a family member, as defined in section 1 of chapter 50, of the parent or other adult dependent receiving care, unless the family member owns, operates or is employed by a professional caregiving service or a nonprofit or for-profit organization that provides adult-care services and the cost of the service is not greater than such family member would otherwise charge.

SECTION 21B. Section 6 of said chapter 55 is hereby amended by inserting, after the word ‘services,’ , as inserted by section 182 of said chapter 238, the following words: “provision of adult-care services, .”;

By inserting after section 64A (inserted by amendment) the following section:

“SECTION 64B. (a) Notwithstanding paragraph (i) of subdivision (4) of section 5 of chapter 32 of the General Laws, an active or inactive member of the teachers' retirement system or the Boston retirement system who: (i) is a teacher or school nurse; (ii) became eligible for membership in the teachers' retirement system before July 1, 2001; (iii) began contributing to the teachers' retirement system before July 1, 2001; and (iv) did not provide a written election to participate in the alternative superannuation retirement benefit program provided under said subdivision (4) to the teachers' retirement system or the Boston retirement system before July 1, 2001 or at any other time prior to September 1, 2025, or declined to participate in the alternative superannuation retirement benefit program before July 1, 2001 or at any other time prior to September 1, 2025, shall have a new 1-time opportunity to elect to participate in the alternative superannuation retirement benefit program. A member entitled to make an election under this section shall have 180 days from the effective date of this act to make such election.

(b) A member who participates in the alternative superannuation retirement benefit program under this section shall make contributions at the rate of 11 per cent, pursuant to section 22 of chapter 32 of the General Laws, and may be required to provide make-up contributions at the rate of 11 per cent, upon such terms and conditions as the relevant retirement system may require, from the date that such member established membership in the teachers' retirement system or the Boston retirement system.

(c) The teachers' retirement system and the Boston retirement system shall notify eligible active or inactive members of the teachers' retirement system and the Boston retirement system and shall provide information to school districts concerning the 1-

time opportunity pursuant to subsection (a); provided, that the teachers' retirement system and the Boston retirement system shall provide sufficient information pursuant to said subsection (a) and subsection (b) not later than 90 days after the effective date of this act.”;

By inserting after section 66 the following section:

“SECTION 66A. (a) Upon implementation of the Massachusetts secure choice savings program established pursuant to section 64H of chapter 29 of the General Laws, inserted by section 16C, the Massachusetts secure choice savings board established pursuant to section 64G of said chapter 29, inserted by said section 16C, shall provide written confirmation to the department of revenue.

(b) Upon receipt of the notice pursuant to subsection (a), the department of revenue shall immediately make publicly available a notice informing employers of the requirements of the Massachusetts secure choice savings program. The notice shall inform employers that rather than enrolling employees in the program, employers may sponsor an alternative plan, including, but not limited to, a defined benefit plan, a 401(k) plan, a Simplified Employee Pension (SEP) plan or a Savings Incentive Match Plan for Employees (SIMPLE) plan.

(c) Notwithstanding section 64J of chapter 29 of the General Laws, inserted by section 16C, no penalty shall be assessed against an employer for noncompliance with section 64I of said chapter 29, inserted by said section 16C, until 1 year after the department of revenue issues the notice required pursuant to subsection (b).”;

In section 71, in line 577, by inserting after the year: “2025” the following: “; and provided further, that not less than \$3,500,000 shall be distributed to each regional transit authority based on the following formula: (i) 60 per cent based on total transit ridership as reported on the most recent certified national transit data base report; (ii) 30 per cent based on the population of its member communities from the most recent census; and (iii) 10 per cent based on service coverage area determined by the total square miles of its member communities.”;

By inserting after section 80 the following section:

“SECTION 80A. The director of campaign and political finance shall promulgate regulations for the implementation of section 21B not later than October 1, 2025.”.

After remarks on the question on adoption of the amendments, the sense of the House was taken by yeas and nays, as required under the provisions of House Rule 33F; and on the roll call 154 members voted in the affirmative and 3 in the negative.

**[See [Yea and Nay No. 43](#) in Supplement.]**

Therefore the consolidated amendments (constitutional officers, state administration, and transportation) were adopted.

Consolidated  
amendments  
adopted,—  
yea and nay  
No. 43.

*Recess.*

At eighteen minutes before nine o'clock P.M. (Tuesday, April 29), on motion of Mr. Jones of North Reading (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House recessed until the following day at eleven o'clock A.M.; and at that time, the House was called to order with Mr. Donato in the Chair.

Recess.