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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.**



**TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2025**

[46]

## JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

Tuesday, May 20, 2025.

Met at four minutes past ten o'clock A.M. (Mr. Brownsberger in the Chair).

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The Chair (Mr. Brownsberger), members, guests and staff then recited the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

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Pledge of  
allegiance.

### *Distinguished Guests.*

There being no objection, during consideration of the Orders of the Day, the following guests were introduced:

The Chair (Mr. Brownsberger) handed the gavel to Mr. Tarr for the purpose of an introduction. Mr. Tarr then introduced, in the rear of the Chamber, a delegation from Terrasini, Palermo- Sicily. Among the group were: Mayor of Terrasini Giosue Maniaci and Father Pino Ingrao. The Senate welcomed them with applause, Mayor Maniaci signed the guestbook and they withdrew from the Chamber.

Sicilian delegation.

The Chair (Mr. Brownsberger) handed the gavel to Mr. Durant for the purpose of an introduction. Mr. Durant then introduced, in the rear of the Chamber, the Wachusett Regional High School girls basketball team. The team was recognized for winning the MIAA Division 1 state championship title, defeating Bishop Feehan. The team was accompanied by Head Coach Jim Oxford and Assistant Coaches Rusty Dillion and Catherine McDonald. The Senate applauded their accomplishments and they withdrew from the Chamber.

Wachusett Regional  
High School girls  
basketball team.

The Chair (Ms. Creem) handed the gavel to Mr. Collins for the purpose of an introduction. Mr. Collins then introduced, in the rear of the Chamber, Colonel Tim Murphy. Colonel Murphy was applauded for his service to the United States, he signed the guestbook and withdrew from the Chamber.

Colonel Tim  
Murphy.

The Chair (Mr. Brownsberger) handed the gavel to Mr. Cyr for the purpose of an introduction. Mr. Cyr then introduced, in the well of the Chamber, the Boston Gay Men's Chorus. The Chorus was visiting the State House in memory of their friend, John Andrew Childs, who passed away on December 27, 2024. The Chorus addressed the Senate in song with a rendition of "Everything Possible", were welcomed with applause and they withdrew from the Chamber.

Boston Gay Men's  
Chorus.

### *Communication.*

Communication from the Honorable, Bruce E. Tarr, Minority Leader, announcing the appointment of Senator Patrick M. O'Connor (pursuant to Chapter 29 of the Acts of 2020) Opioid Recovery and Remediation Fund advisory council when current appointee John Rosenthal's term ends May 25, 2025 (received May 20, 2025),-- **was placed on file.**

Opioid Recovery  
and Remediation  
council  
appointment.

### *Reports.*

The following reports were severally received and placed on file, to wit:

Report of the Executive Office for Administration and Finance (pursuant to Chapter 77 of the Acts of 2023 and Chapter 88 of the Acts of 2024) submitting its Emergency Housing Assistance Program bi-weekly report (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair

A&F,-- EA Housing  
bi-weekly report.  
SD2906

of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received May 19, 2025);

Report of the Executive Office for Administration and Finance (pursuant to Chapter 88 of the Acts of 2024) submitting its monthly report on Temporary Respite Centers (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received May 19, 2025);

A&F,-- temporary  
respite centers  
report.  
SD2907

Report of the Executive Office of Economic Development (pursuant to Section 298 of Chapter 238 of the Acts of 2024) submitting its Devens Housing Working Group report (a copy having been forwarded to the Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies) (received May 20, 2025);

EOED,-- Devens  
Housing Working  
Group report.  
SD2909

Report of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (pursuant Section 18 of Chapter 21A of General Laws) submitting its MassDEP Annual Fees report (copies having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Environment and Natural Resources) (received May 20, 2025);

EOEA,-- MassDEP  
Annual Fees report.  
SD2911

Report of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (pursuant to Section 5 of Chapter 25A of the General Laws) submitting its 2024 Department of Energy Resources annual report (copies having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy) (received May 20, 2025);

EOEEA,-- DOER  
2024 annual report.  
SD2912

Report of the Massachusetts Gaming Commission (pursuant to Section 69 of Chapter 23K of the General Laws) submitting its Gaming Revenues April 2025 report (copies having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means, the Senate Chairs of the Joint Committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies and the Joint Committee on Revenue) (received May 20, 2025); and

MGC,-- Gaming  
Revenues April  
2025 report.  
SD2913

Report of the Norfolk County Registry of Deeds (pursuant to Section 2KKK(a) of Chapter 29 of the General Laws) submitting its plan for expenditure from the Norfolk County Registers Technological Fund report (copies having been forwarded to the Chairs of the Senate Committees on Ways and Means and Post Audit and Oversight) (received May 20, 2025).

Norfolk ROD  
Technological Fund  
report.  
SD2914

#### PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE.

Petitions were severally referred, in concurrence, as follows, to wit:

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4148) of Aaron L. Saunders and Joanne M. Comerford (by vote of the town) relative to lawful noncitizen permanent resident voting in the town of Shutesbury;

Shutesbury,--  
resident voting.

#### **To the committee on Election Laws.**

Petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4149) of Daniel Cahill (with the approval of the mayor and city council) relative to the charter in the city of Lynn;

Lynn,-- charter.

#### **To the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.**

#### *Orders of the Day.*

The Orders of the Day were considered as follows:

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. 4001),-- was read a second time.

General  
appropriations bill.

After remarks, pending the question on adoption of the amendment previously recommended by the committee on Ways and Means striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text contained in Senate document numbered 3, and pending the main question on ordering the bill to a third reading, Messrs. Cyr, Tarr, Keenan,

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Payano and Finegold, Ms. Creem, Ms. Edwards and Ms. Lovely moved to amend the proposed new text by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$330,000 shall be expended to modernize and increase state building inspection capacity at the board of building regulations and standards”; and by striking out the figure “\$19,916,561” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$20,546,243”; and

By inserting after section 85 the following 3 sections:-

“SECTION 85A. The executive office of housing and livable communities, in consultation with the department of revenue, shall study the feasibility and efficacy of a housing construction sales tax exemption program or other form of state support for multifamily housing projects that are stalled or at risk of being stalled due to increased cost of materials associated with federal tariffs or other economic volatility for which there are no state or federal subsidies available. The executive office shall submit a report on its findings which shall include recommendations regarding potential cost and how such a program would best achieve statewide housing affordability goals. The report shall consider construction cost variation across regions of the commonwealth, including geographically isolated communities. The report shall be filed with the clerks of the senate and the house of representatives, the joint committee on housing, the joint committee on revenue and the house and senate committees on ways and means not later than January 1, 2026.

SECTION 85B. The executive office of housing and livable communities, in consultation with the office of public safety and inspections and the board of building regulations and standards, shall study the feasibility and efficacy of allowing licensed third-party inspectors to conduct inspections of manufactured housing, off-site construction and multifamily housing projects. The executive office shall submit a report on its findings which shall include training recommendations and licensure guidelines and processes. The report shall be filed with the clerks of the senate and the house of representatives, the joint committee on housing, the joint committee on revenue and the house and senate committees on ways and means not later than January 1, 2026.

SECTION 85C. The executive office of housing and livable communities, in consultation with the executive office for administration and finance, the division of local services and the department of revenue, shall study the feasibility and impact of allowing municipalities, by local option, to exempt new affordable housing developments from the provisions of paragraphs (b) and (f) of section 21C of chapter 59 of the General Laws. The study shall include, but not be limited to: (i) potential revenue benefits; (ii) potential new affordable housing units created; (iii) the impact of allowing municipalities, by local option, to exempt new affordable housing developments at a multiplier of 5 and 10 times the value prescribed in said paragraphs (b) and (f) of said section 21C of said chapter 59; (iv) the impact on housing developments with different percentages of affordable units; (v) the impact of requiring affordability thresholds to qualify for such exemptions; and (vi) a comparison of potential impacts across different municipalities in the commonwealth. The executive office of housing and livable communities shall submit a report of its findings to the clerks of the senate and house of representatives, the joint committee on housing, the joint committee on revenue and the house and senate committees on ways and means not later than March 1, 2026.”

After remarks, the question on adoption of the amendment was determined by a call of the yeas and nays at twenty-three minutes before eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Cyr, as follows, to wit (yeas 40 – nays 0) **[Yeas and Nays No. 27]:**

**YEAS.**

Barrett, Michael J.  
Brady, Michael D.  
Brownsberger, William N.

Gómez, Adam  
Jehlen, Patricia D.  
Keenan, John F.

Collins, Nick  
Comerford, Joanne M.  
Creem, Cynthia Stone  
Crighton, Brendan P.  
Cronin, John J.  
Cyr, Julian  
DiDomenico, Sal N.  
Dooner, Kelly A.  
Driscoll, Jr., William J.  
Durant, Peter J.  
Edwards, Lydia  
Eldridge, James B.  
Fattman, Ryan C.  
Feeney, Paul R.  
Fernandes, Dylan A.  
Finegold, Barry R.  
Friedman, Cindy F.

Kennedy, Edward J.  
Kennedy, Robyn K.  
Lewis, Jason M.  
Lovely, Joan B.  
Mark, Paul W.  
Miranda, Liz  
Montigny, Mark C.  
Moore, Michael O.  
O'Connor, Patrick M.  
Oliveira, Jacob R.  
Payano, Pavel  
Rausch, Rebecca L.  
Rodrigues, Michael J.  
Rush, Michael F.  
Spilka, Karen E.  
Tarr, Bruce E.  
Velis, John C. – 40.

**NAYS – 0.**

The yeas and nays having been completed at fourteen minutes before eleven o'clock A.M., the amendment was adopted.

**There being no objection, the following amendments were considered as one, and rejected as follows:**

Messrs. Moore, Montigny, Tarr and Brady moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_ the following section:-

“SECTION \_\_. (a) Notwithstanding any general or special law, rule or regulation to the contrary, the attorney general shall promulgate regulations requiring that, in connection with any Advertising or marketing, solicitation, or offer of Sale that is Targeted To or results in a Sale in Massachusetts, misrepresenting or failing to disclose Clearly and Conspicuously, at the time of the initial presentation of the Total Price of any Product, or any subsequent presentation thereafter, the nature, purpose, and amount of any import fees, import charges, or other import duties that would be imposed on the transaction due to the purchase of that Product shall constitute an unfair and deceptive practice under section 2 of chapter 93A of the General Laws.

(b) The terms used in subsection (a) shall, unless context requires otherwise, have the same meaning as provided in 940 CMR 38.03, provided that import fees, import charges, or other import duties shall be itemized separately from the Total Price of any Product in accordance with subsection (a).

(c) For the purposes of this section, ‘import fees, import charges, or other import duties’ shall mean, with respect to any products, merchandise, or goods imported into the United States, any: (1) ad valorem duty; (2) specific duty; and (3) other duties, taxes, fees, exactions, and charges, identified by the attorney general.

(d) The attorney general shall promulgate the regulations required under subsection (a) not later than 30 days after the effective date of this act, provided that said regulations shall have an enforcement date that applies to acts committed or practices in force after the minimum reasonable time needed for compliance, as determined by the attorney general.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Eldridge, Gómez, Collins, Fattman and Cronin, Ms. Edwards, Ms. Rausch and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7006-0011, by striking out, each time it appears, the figure “\$1,500,000” and inserting in place thereof, in each instance, the following figure:- “\$3,050,000”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Cyr, Ms. Edwards and Messrs. Payano, Lewis, Collins and Eldridge moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7004-0099, by striking out the figure “\$15,573,388” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$22,235,340”. 20

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Moore, Mark, Collins, O'Connor, Finegold, Eldridge and Keenan moved that the proposed new text be amended in section 2, by inserting after item 7002-0017 the following item:- 23

“7002-0025 For operational support grants to community action agencies; provided, that criteria for the distribution of the grants, including minimum or maximum grant size, eligible uses and any relevant reporting and accountability measures shall be developed jointly with the Massachusetts Association for Community Action, Inc. or MASSCAP; and provided further, that the grants shall be used to assist the agencies in their mission to assist residents of the commonwealth living with low incomes to stabilize their lives and achieve economic prosperity, and in creating and expanding opportunity for those residents in the neighborhoods and municipalities where they live and work .....\$5,000,000”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Moore moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_\_\_ the following section:- 27

“SECTION \_\_\_\_ . Section 4 of Chapter 151B of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after paragraph 10 the following paragraph:-

10A. For the owner, lessee, sublessee, real estate broker, assignee or managing agent of other covered housing to refuse to rent or lease or sell or negotiate for sale or otherwise to deny to or withhold from any individual because of the individuals credit history when they are a recipient of any such public assistance, rental assistance, or housing subsidy program.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Gómez, Ms. Miranda and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 1070-0840, by striking the figure “\$16,424,372” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$18,624,372”. 39

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Gómez, Mark, Collins and Cronin, Ms. Edwards, Mr. Payano, Ms. Rausch, Ms. Miranda and Messrs. O'Connor, Eldridge, Brady and Montigny moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7002-0040, by striking the figure “\$5,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$10,000,000”. 40

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Miranda and Messrs. Gómez, Collins, Payano, O'Connor and Brady moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that no less than \$750,000 shall be expended for Black Economic Council of Massachusetts (BECMA)” and by striking out the figure “100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “850,000”. 52

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Rush moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to Roslindale Village Main Street, Inc. to further promote economic development opportunities for businesses located in its business district”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$125,000”. 55

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Fernandes moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section 70



— the following section:-

“SECTION \_\_ Chapter 29 of the General Laws as appearing in the 2022 official edition is hereby amended by inserting after section 2KKKKK, as inserted by section 1 of chapter 254 of the acts of 2020, the following 2 sections:-

‘Section 2LLLLL. There shall be established and set up on the books of the commonwealth a separate fund to be known as the Local Newspaper Trust Fund, hereinafter referred to as the fund, for the purposes of aiding local businesses and promoting an informed populace. The fund shall provide, without further appropriation, grants to newspapers: (i) with a principal place of business within the commonwealth and (ii) circulation not exceeding 50,000 on weekdays. The secretary of housing and economic development shall administer the fund, develop eligibility and application requirements and select grant recipients.

The fund shall consist of: (i) fifteen percent of revenue from the tax on digital advertising services within the commonwealth as provided in subsection (d) of section 82 of chapter 63, annually; (ii) interest earned on such revenues; and (iii) funds from public and private sources, including, but not limited to, gifts, federal or private grants, donations, rebates and settlements received by the commonwealth that are specifically designated to be credited to the fund.

No expenditure from the fund shall cause the fund to be in deficiency at the close of a fiscal year. Monies deposited 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 2MMMMM. There shall be established and set up on the books of the commonwealth a separate fund to be known as the Pre-K and After School Program Trust Fund. The fund shall provide, without further appropriation, grants to the Massachusetts universal pre-kindergarten program, early education and care programs and school-aged child care programs, as defined in section 1A of chapter 15D. The commissioner of elementary and secondary education and commissioner of early education and care shall administer the fund, develop eligibility and application requirements and select grant recipients.

The fund shall consist of: (i) eighty-five percent of the revenue from the tax on digital advertising services within the commonwealth as provided in subsection (d) of section 82 of chapter 63; (ii) interest earned on such revenues; and (iii) funds from public and private sources, including, but not limited to, gifts, federal or private grants, donations, rebates and settlements received by the commonwealth that are specifically designated to be credited to the fund.

No expenditure from the fund shall cause the fund to be in deficiency at the close of a fiscal year. Monies deposited 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.’

Chapter 63 of the General Laws as appearing in the 2022 official edition is hereby amended by adding the following section:-

‘Section 82. (a) As used in this section the following terms shall, unless the context clearly requires otherwise, have the following meanings:

‘Digital advertising services’, advertisement services on a digital interface, including advertisements in the form of banner advertising, search engine advertising, interstitial advertising and other comparable advertising services.

‘Digital interface’, any type of software, including a website, part of a website or an application that a user may access.

‘IP address’, a unique string of characters assigned to each device connected to a computer network using the Internet Protocol for communication.

‘User’, an individual who accesses a digital interface using a device with an IP address.

(b) There shall be assessed and levied in each calendar year an excise on the sale of digital advertising services within the commonwealth on corporations or companies with revenue from digital advertising services in excess of \$50 million per year within the commonwealth. The excise shall be assessed at a rate equal to 5 percent of the corporation’s or company’s annual revenue from digital advertising services within the commonwealth. A digital advertising service shall be deemed to have been provided within the commonwealth if it is received on a user’s device having an IP address located within the commonwealth.

(c) Corporations or companies with revenue from digital advertising services in excess of \$50 million per year within the commonwealth shall remit the excise described in subsection (b) to the commissioner of revenue on a monthly basis.

(d) The commissioner of revenue shall deposit revenue from the excise described in subsection (b) as follows: (i) fifteen percent of the annual revenue into the Local Newspaper Trust Fund established in section 2LLLLL of chapter 29, annually; (ii) eighty-five percent of the annual revenue into the Pre-K and After School Trust Fund established in section 2MMMMM of said chapter 29; and (iii) any remaining funds into the General Fund established in section 2 of said chapter 29.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Fernandes moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7004-4314, by striking out the figure “\$6,500,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$7,500,000”.

83

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Cronin, Mark and Eldridge moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after item \_\_\_\_ the following item:-

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“xxxx-xxxx For a matching grant program for cities and towns to support the vitality of downtowns and main streets; provided, that grants may be used to develop, sustain or strengthen business districts, town centers, commercial corridors, cultural districts or other walkable mixed-use areas; provided further, that funds may be used for community planning, district management, and investment activities that stimulate economic development, expand entrepreneurship and create jobs in the downtown economy sector and to construct, improve, repair, maintain and protect downtown assets; provided further, that the executive office of economic development may establish additional program requirements through regulations or policy guidelines; provided further, that funds shall be awarded on a competitive basis in accordance with such program requirements; and provided further, that financial assistance offered pursuant to this item shall be awarded, to the extent feasible, in a manner that reflects geographic and demographic diversity and social and economic equity..... \$500,000”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Kennedy, Messrs. Gómez and Keenan, Ms. Rausch and Messrs. Mark, Eldridge and Cyr moved that the proposed new text be amended in section 2, by adding after item 7004-3036 the following item:-

105

“7004-4045 For a tenancy preservation program for neutral party consultation services in eviction cases before the housing court department of the trial court for individuals with disabilities and for families with individuals with disabilities; provided, that the disability of the program participant or family member must be directly related to the reason for eviction to be eligible for the program, prior appropriation continued .....\$42,755”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Fattman moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$30,000 shall

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be expended to the Charlton historical society for maintenance upgrades including, but not limited to the purchase and installation of heating and cooling systems at the Rider Tavern”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$130,000”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Miranda moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended to Walker Therapeutic & Educational Programs for the purpose of providing comprehensive programming in the fields of child welfare, children’s behavioral health, and special education”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$200,000”.

124

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Miranda moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further that \$100,000 shall be expended for the Boston Housing Authority for improvements to exterior space at the Franklin Fields homes and to support climate resiliency retrofitting and sustainability initiatives”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$200,000”.

128

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. DiDomenico, Gómez, Collins and Keenan, Ms. Edwards, Ms. Rausch and Messrs. O'Connor, Eldridge and Cyr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7002-0010, by inserting the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$500,000 shall be expended for the Massachusetts Association of Community Development Corporations, Inc. to offer organizational capacity building, staff training, and technical assistance to community development corporations and other community development nonprofits as they work to expand affordable housing and economic opportunity”; and by striking out the figure “\$6,358,084” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$6,858,084”.

135

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Kennedy moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7004-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to Christian Community Church in Worcester for the operation of Zac’s House shelter for homeless individuals”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

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The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Lovely, Messrs. Mark, Gómez, Velis, Cronin, Tarr and Moore, Ms. Rausch and Messrs. Eldridge, Oliveira, Durant, Fattman, Fernandes, O'Connor, Payano and Cyr moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_ the following section:-

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“SECTION \_\_. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, grants from the amounts collected pursuant to subsection (a) of section 13T of chapter 23A of the General Laws allocated to regional tourism councils pursuant to clause (ii) of subsection (d) of said section 13T of said chapter 23A for fiscal year 2026 shall be distributed not later than December 1, 2025 pursuant to a transfer schedule determined by the executive office for administration and finance.

Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, grants from the amounts collected pursuant to subsection (b) of section 13T of chapter 23A of the General Laws allocated to regional tourism councils pursuant to clause (ii) of subsection (d) of said section 13T of said chapter 23A for fiscal year 2025 shall be distributed not later than December 1, 2025 pursuant to a transfer schedule determined by the executive office for administration and finance.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Lovely, Messrs. Gómez, Velis, Collins, Keenan, Mark, Eldridge and Lewis, Ms. Edwards, Mr. Payano, Ms. Rausch, Mr. Moore, Ms. Miranda, Ms. Jehlen and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7004-9024, by striking out the figure “\$253,311,840” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$270,000,000”; and by replacing the words “not less than \$50 per voucher per month” with “not less than \$55 per voucher per month”. 150

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Mark, Velis, Cronin, Moore, Eldridge, Gómez, Oliveira, Durant, Fattman and Fernandes, Ms. Rausch and Messrs. O'Connor and Payano moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-0900, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$1,000,000 shall be transferred to the Massachusetts Tourism Trust Fund established under section 13T of chapter 23A of the General Laws; provided further, that notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, all funds transferred from this item to the Massachusetts Tourism Trust Fund shall be made available to regional tourism councils”. 155

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Edwards, Messrs. Cyr, Gómez and Payano, Ms. Rausch and Messrs. Mark, Eldridge and Brady moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7004-0099, by adding the following words:- “; provided further that \$2,000,000 shall be expended for the operating costs of the Office of Fair Housing established in Chapter 150 of the Acts of 2024 in section 5; provided further that \$1,000,000 be expended to fund the Fair housing trust fund established in Chapter 150 of the Acts of 2024 in section 6 notwithstanding section 2FFFFFFF of chapter 29 of the General Laws; provided further that \$2,000,000 shall be expended for the Office of Fair Housing to support entities that participate in Fair Housing initiatives, as defined by §125.103 of the Code of Federal Regulations in the 2024 edition, at the express direction of the Director of the Office of Fair Housing”. 171

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Miranda moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4512-0205, by adding the following words:- “; provided, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for Project R.I.G.H.T., Inc.’s substance use and trauma prevention initiative in the Grove Hall area of Boston”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”. 179

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Miranda moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for Justice 4 Housing, Inc. for transitional reentry homes that provide housing and wraparound services for individuals returning from incarceration”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$200,000”. 180

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Mark moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2511-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for Roots Rising, Inc. to support the development of the Farm and Education Center in the city of Pittsfield”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000”; and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$200,000”. 205

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_ the following sections:- 226

“SECTION 1. For the purposes of this act, ‘Small business’ shall mean a business entity, including its affiliates, that (a) is independently owned and operated; (b) has a principal place of business in the commonwealth; and (c) would be defined as a ‘small

business' under applicable federal law, as established in the United States Code and promulgated from time to time by the United States Small Business Administration.

SECTION 2. Chapter 30A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding the following section:

Section 26. Small Business Administrative Rights.

(a) All state agencies shall respond to inquiries, requests for information, or other correspondence from small businesses within 24 hours of receipt, excluding weekends and state holidays.

(b) State agencies shall notify small businesses by email of any pending rule changes, compliance requirements, or other regulatory updates no later than 7 days after such changes are published.

(c) Small businesses shall have the right to a hearing within 30 days of a request to contest violations, penalties, or other adverse actions. Agencies shall provide clear written explanations of any alleged violations, including citations to applicable laws or regulations.

(d) State agencies shall provide accessible and plain-language instructions to assist small businesses, in achieving compliance with state regulations. No penalties shall be issued for noncompliance unless the small business is given a reasonable time to rectify the issue, as determined by the agency's rules.

SECTION 3. Chapter 62C of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 official edition, is hereby amended by adding the following section:

Section 19A. One-Year Waiting Period for New Taxes on Small Businesses.

(a) Any new tax, fee, or financial charge on small businesses shall not take effect until one year after it is enacted.

(b) The Department of Revenue must notify all affected small businesses in writing at least six months before the new tax or fee takes effect. The notice must include: (1) The law or regulation creating the tax or fee; (2) A plain-language summary of its purpose and requirements; And (3) Instructions for how to appeal.

(c) Small businesses may appeal the new tax or fee within 30 days of receiving the notice. The Department of Revenue must hold a hearing within 60 days and provide a written decision within 30 days after the hearing.

(d) This waiting period may be waived only during a declared state of emergency if the Governor and two-thirds of both legislative chambers approve.

SECTION 4. Chapter 93 of the General law, as appearing in the 2022 official edition, is hereby amended by adding the following section:-

Section 115. Centralized Permitting and Licensing Portal for Small Businesses.

(a) The Secretary of the Commonwealth, in coordination with the Executive Office of Health and Human Services, Executive Office of Economic Development, the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, and other relevant state agencies, shall establish and maintain a centralized online portal to streamline licensing, permitting, and registration processes for small businesses, within the Commonwealth.

(b) The portal shall: (1) Provide a unified platform for applying, renewing, and tracking compliance for licenses and permits; (2) Include licensing and permitting requirements from all relevant state agencies, boards, and commissions; (3) Offer comprehensive guidance and resources to help small businesses meet compliance requirements; (4) Facilitate secure online payments for applicable fees; (5) include the capability for real-time tracking of permit and license applications, allowing users to monitor the status, progress, and any outstanding requirements in real time; and (6) Include a feedback mechanism for users to report issues or suggest improvements.

(c) Each agency, board, and commission overseeing licensing or permitting processes for small businesses shall collaborate with the Secretary of the Commonwealth to integrate their processes into the portal within 12 months of the effective date of this section.

(d) The Secretary of the Commonwealth shall adopt regulations to implement this section, including timelines for agency integration and performance benchmarks for the portal.

(e) The Secretary shall submit an annual report to the Governor, the Speaker of the House, the Senate President, the Minority Leaders of both chambers, and the Chairs of the Joint Committee on Community Development and Small Businesses. This report shall detail the portal's operations, usage statistics, and provide any recommendations for improvement.

SECTION 5. Section 9-525 of Chapter 106 of the General Law, as so appearing, is hereby amended by adding the following subsection:-

(e) Small business fee reduction. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the fees specified in subsections (a), (b), and (c) of this section shall be reduced by 50 percent for entities classified as small businesses. The Secretary of the Commonwealth shall promulgate regulations to implement this fee reduction.

SECTION 6. Section 45 of Chapter 108A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after paragraph (1) the following paragraph:-

Notwithstanding any general or special law or rule or regulation to the contrary, the registration fee for entities classified as small businesses, shall be 250 dollars.

SECTION 7. Said section of chapter 108A of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by inserting after paragraph (3) the following paragraph:-

Notwithstanding any general or special law or rule or regulation to the contrary, the annual report fee for entities classified as small businesses, shall be 250 dollars.

SECTION 8. Section 13 of chapter 109 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding the following subsection:-

(c) Notwithstanding any general or special law or rule or regulation to the contrary, the filing fees for certificates of limited partnership, certificates of amendment, certificates of cancellation, and judicial decrees of amendment or cancellation shall be reduced by 50 percent for entities classified as small businesses. The Secretary of the Commonwealth shall promulgate regulations to implement this fee reduction.

SECTION 9. Said section of chapter 109 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by adding the following subsection:-

(d) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the annual report fee for limited partnerships shall be reduced by 50 percent for entities classified as small businesses.

SECTION 10. Chapter 112 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by adding after section 289, the following section:-

Section 290. Reduction of Professional Licensing Fees for Small Businesses.

Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, all fees required under this chapter for obtaining, renewing, or reinstating professional licenses shall be reduced by 50 percent for individuals classified as small business owners. Each licensing board shall promulgate regulations to implement this reduction and ensure consistency across professions.

SECTION 11. Section 114 of chapter 156B of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by adding the following paragraph at the end:-

Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, all fees required under this section shall be reduced by 50 percent for entities classified as small businesses. The Secretary of the Commonwealth shall promulgate regulations to implement this fee reduction.

SECTION 12. Section 2B of Chapter 141 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by inserting after the first paragraph the following paragraph:

Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the fees required under this

section for licenses, examinations, and renewals shall be reduced by 50 percent for individuals classified as small business owners. The Board of State Examiners of Electricians shall promulgate regulations to implement this reduction.

SECTION 13. Section 5 of chapter 142 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by inserting after the first paragraph the following paragraph:-

Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the fees required under this section for licenses, examinations, and renewals shall be reduced by 50 percent for individuals classified as small business owners. The Board of State Examiners of Plumbers and Gas Fitters shall promulgate regulations to implement this reduction.

SECTION 14. Section 12 of chapter 156C of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking subsection (d) and inserting in place thereof the following:-

(d) The fee for the filing of the certificate of organization required by subsection (a) shall be 250 dollars. The fee for the filing of the annual report required by subsection (c) shall be 250 dollars. Such fees shall be paid to the state secretary at the time the certificate of organization or the annual report is filed.

SECTION 15. Section 1.22 of chapter 156D of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting the following paragraph:-

Notwithstanding any general or special law or rule or regulation to the contrary, fees under this section shall be reduced by 50 percent for small businesses. The commissioner shall issue regulations to implement this provision.

SECTION 16. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, to the extent feasible any boards or commission created regarding excise policy shall have at least one member that represents small business in the commonwealth.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Fattman and Tarr, Mrs. Dooner and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting the text of Senate document numbered 2519 relative to Cosmetology Licensure Compact.

245

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Edwards moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 5042-5000, by adding the following words:- “; provided further that not less than \$250,000 shall be expended for the Community Mentoring Team”.

248

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Brownsberger, Ms. Rausch and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 0511-0270, by striking the figure “\$1,030,663” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$1,530,663”.

262

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Rush, O'Connor and Tarr moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting the following section:-

265

“SECTION XX. Section 4A of Chapter 7 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting in subsection (b) in line 59 after the word ‘administration’ the following:-

‘i. The Human Resources Division shall be required to respond via electronic mail or verified mail to any applicant who has applied for a position within any state agency, commission, department, or any other organization listed under MassCareers on the official website of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts regarding the status of their application within twenty business days of the closing date of the posting of the position.

ii. The Human Resources Division shall remove any job posting listed under MassCareers on the official website of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts within three business days of the closing date of the posting of the position.’.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Rausch and Messrs. Eldridge and Payano moved that the proposed new text be

266



amended by striking out sections 11 and 72.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Rausch moved that the proposed new text be amended in section 2, by inserting after item 1233-2350 the following item:-

“xxxx-xxxx For payments to cities and towns under chapter 23K of the General Laws.....\$922,824”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Cronin, Fattman, Gómez and Collins, Ms. Kennedy and Messrs. Keenan, O'Connor, Brady, Tarr and Montigny moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 0960-1000, by striking out the figure “\$1,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$3,500,000”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Cronin and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7006-0040, by striking out the figure “12,286,344” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “14,721,062”; and

In item 7006-0142, by striking out the figure “19,916,561” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “20,216,243.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. DiDomenico, Ms. Rausch and Ms. Kennedy moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_ the following sections:-

“SECTION \_\_. Section 1 of chapter 55 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by inserting after the definition of ‘Candidate’s 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, non-profit 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 individual receiving care, unless the family member owns, operates, or is employed by a professional caregiving service, and the cost of the service is not greater than the family member would otherwise charge.

SECTION \_\_. Section 6 of said chapter 55, as so appearing, is hereby amended by inserting, after the word ‘office,’ in line 66, the following:- ‘or expenses relating to the provision of adult-care services that would not otherwise exist but for the existence of the campaign’.

SECTION \_\_. The director of campaign and political finance shall promulgate regulations for the implementation of this section within 90 days of enactment.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Velis, Mark, Cronin and Payano moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 1410-0010, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$15,000 shall be expended for a partnership with the Alliance of Massachusetts YMCAs, Inc. to pilot statewide veteran's memberships”; and by striking out the figure “\$12,435,036” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$12,450,036”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mrs. Dooner and Mr. Eldridge moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 0511-0280, by striking out, in line one, the word “; may” and inserting in place thereof the following word:- “shall”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 0610-0051, by striking out, in line 6, the word “may” and inserting in place thereof the following



word:- “shall”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 0910-0210, by striking out, in line 1, the words:- “may expend” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- “shall expend”.

284

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 1110-1002, by striking out, in line 1, the words:- “may expend” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- “shall expend”.

285

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 1790-0100, by striking out the figure “\$200,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

286

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mrs. Dooner and Messrs. O'Connor and Montigny moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 1410-0250, by striking out the figure “\$3,992,315” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$4,100,000”.

287

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 1790-0300, by striking out item 1790-0300 in its entirety.

288

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4400-1000, by inserting after the words “15 days before any such transfer;” the following words:- “; provided further, that all reports of funds transferred and deficiencies shall be made public record and shall require a two-thirds vote of approval by the Senate and House committees on ways and means;”.

289

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 1599-3384, by striking out the figure “\$250,000” each time it appears and inserting in place thereof, in each instance, the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

291

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 1775-0700, by striking out, in line 1, the word “may” and inserting in place thereof the following word:- “shall”; and by striking out the figure:- “\$1,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$500,000”.

292

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 1775-0115, by striking out, in line 1, the word “may” and inserting in place thereof the following word:- “shall”.

293

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Fattman and Tarr and Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_ the following section:-

304

“SECTION X. Subsection B of section 2 of chapter 18 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding the following clause:-

(t) verify that an applicant for benefits through any transitional assistance financial assistance program administered by the department is a United States citizen or lawfully present alien prior to providing any benefits. The department shall register for the systematic alien verification for entitlements program established by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services and shall use said program to verify an applicant’s eligibility pursuant to this clause.

SECTION X. Section 3 of chapter 23B of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby

amended by adding the following subsection:-

(w) verify that an applicant for benefits through any housing program for low and moderate income families administered by the department is a United States citizen or lawfully present alien prior to providing any benefits. The department shall register for the systematic alien verification for entitlements program established by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services and shall use said program to verify an applicant's eligibility pursuant to this paragraph.

SECTION X. Section 2 of chapter 111I of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by adding the following paragraph:-

The department of public health shall verify that an applicant for benefits through the WIC program is a United States citizen or lawfully present alien prior to providing any benefits. The department shall register for the systematic alien verification for entitlements program established by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services and shall use said program to verify a beneficiary's eligibility pursuant to this paragraph.

SECTION X. Section 9A of chapter 118E of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by adding the following paragraph:-

(17) The division shall verify that a beneficiary is a United States citizen or lawfully present alien prior to providing any medical benefits through MassHealth. The division shall register for the systematic alien verification for entitlements program established by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services and shall use said program to verify a beneficiary's eligibility pursuant to this paragraph."

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mrs. Dooner and Messrs. Tarr, O'Connor and Montigny moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after item 2100-0012 the following item:-

305

"xxxx-xxxx For the purpose of conducting an independent performance and fiscal audit of the department of public utilities, including but not limited to an evaluation of administrative efficiency, transparency in rate-setting processes, responsiveness to public input, and alignment of expenditures with statutory mandates; provided, that the office of the state auditor may reallocate funds appropriated under item 2100-0012 for the purpose of supporting this audit if deemed necessary and appropriate ..... \$150,000".

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mrs. Dooner and Messrs. O'Connor and Montigny moved that the proposed new text be amended in section 2, by inserting after item 2250-2000 the following item:-

307

"xxxx-xxxx For the purpose of conducting an independent audit of the Mass Save energy efficiency program, including an assessment of program expenditures, contractor performance, energy savings outcomes, and cost-effectiveness; provided further, that the audit shall be conducted by the office of the state auditor or an independent third-party auditor contracted in consultation with the state auditor; and provided further, that the findings shall be submitted in a report to the house and senate committees on ways and means not later than March 31, 2026 ..... \$500,000".

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mrs. Dooner and Mr. Montigny moved that the proposed new text be amended in section 2, by inserting after item 7004-9316 the following item:-

308

"xxxx-xxxx For the purpose of conducting an independent forensic financial audit of the executive office of housing and livable communities, including but not limited to an examination of spending practices, vendor payments, contracting procedures, and the distribution of shelter and housing-related funds, to be carried out by the office of the state auditor or a qualified third-party auditor contracted in consultation with the state auditor ..... \$1,000,000".

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Fattman and Tarr, Mrs. Dooner and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_ the following section:- 310

“SECTION X. Chapter 6 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after section 15ZZZZZZ the following section:-

Section 15AAAAAAA. The governor shall annually issue a proclamation setting apart the month of January as Peace Officer History Month and recommend that the month be observed in an appropriate manner by the people.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Moore, O'Connor and Eldridge moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2300-0100, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$250,000 shall be expended for the Biodiversity Fund established in section 35D 1/2 of chapter 10 of the General Laws”; and by striking out the figure “\$2,143,914” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$2,393,914”. 314

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Moore and Ms. Rausch moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2300-0100, by adding the following words:- “and provided further, that funds shall be expended by the department's office of biodiversity for efforts to increase biodiversity and to protect and prepare vulnerable maritime ecosystems from climate impacts and unlock their potential for carbon sequestration”; and by striking the figure “\$2,143,914” and inserting in place thereof the figure:- “\$2,268,915”. 320

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Moore, O'Connor and Eldridge moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2310-0200, by striking out the figure “\$18,338,495” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$18,657,122”. 321

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Cyr, Ms. Rausch, Messrs. Mark, Cronin, Keenan and Eldridge, Ms. Edwards and Messrs. Payano, Fernandes and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2300-0101, by striking out the figure “\$5,293,523” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$5,766,476”. 326

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Eldridge, Ms. Rausch, Messrs. Mark and Cronin, Ms. Kennedy, Mr. Durant, Ms. Edwards and Messrs. Fernandes and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2200-0100, by striking out the figure “\$54,120,855” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$55,772,829”. 330

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Rush moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_ the following section:- 338

“SECTION XX. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the Havey Beach Reservation areas, so-called, of the Charles River, in the West Roxbury section of the city of Boston shall be the Havey Beach Reservation Great Pond as defined under section 35 of chapter 91 of the General Laws and the department of conservation and recreation shall bear all appropriate costs necessary for improvements to the Havey Beach Reservation including but not limited to survey, building improvements, and landscaping plan, which shall include, but shall not be limited solely to construction of boat docks and launches, running, bicycle and pedestrian trails, and an area for dog run on said Reservation. The department shall enter into a lease of not less than 5 years with an option to renew for 5 years for seasonal use with a water related entity pursuant to said chapter 91 to promote the use of the Great Pond.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Rush moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_ 339

the following section:-

“SECTION XX. There shall be established and set up on the books of the commonwealth a separate, non-budgeted special revenue fund known as the DFG Federal Pass-Through Fund, which shall be administered by the department of fish and game. The fund shall be credited with federal reimbursements from grants administered by public, quasi-public, and non-public entities on behalf of the federal government, including but not limited to the National Fisheries and Wildlife Foundation. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, proceeds credited to the fund may be invested and any income derived from said investment shall be credited to the fund.

Amounts credited to the fund shall be expended, without further appropriation, for research, programs, and projects approved in executed grant agreements.

The unexpended balance in the fund at the end of a fiscal year shall remain available for expenditure in subsequent fiscal years. For the purpose of accommodating timing discrepancies between the receipt of revenues and related expenditures, the department of fish and game may incur expenses, and the comptroller shall certify for payment, amounts not to exceed the most recent revenue estimate as certified by the department of fish and game, as reported in the state accounting system.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Rush, Ms. Edwards and Mr. Finegold moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2000-0101, by adding the following words:- “; provided further that there shall be a special commission to study flood control regional governance that shall be granted not less than \$150,000 for the purpose of hiring an independent consultant to assist the commission in discharging its responsibilities”; and by striking out the figure “\$5,127,889” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$5,277,889”; and

341

By inserting the following section:-

“SECTION XX. (a) The special commission to study flood control regional governance shall consist of 13 members: 8 members of the state legislature, 4 of whom shall be appointed by the president of the senate, 1 of whom shall be serve as co-chair, and 4 members shall be appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives, 1 of whom one shall be designated co-chair; the executive directors of 5 watershed organizations shall be appointed to serve on the committee by the secretary of the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs. The special commission shall meet not less than 4 times and shall hold not less than 1 public hearing.

(b) The special commission shall study and report on:

(i) The impact of flooding on Massachusetts state and municipal governments, residents, businesses, public and private infrastructure, the environment and on low and moderate income communities;

(ii) the affordability and availability of flood insurance in Massachusetts; the current and potential impact of the loss of flood insurance and contingent mortgage financing on homeowners and businesses;

(iii) options for the creation of watershed based flooding regional governance districts statewide; (iv) options for regional governance organization entities that could provide each geographic regions with the capacity best suited to meet the needs of that region including but not limited to providing that each region had a regional strategic flood protection plan with the capacity to develop and provide recommendations for the implement of such plan;

(v.) the benefits of a regional governance structure in supporting the commonwealth in safely adapting to climate change by protecting people and property, minimizing disaster recovery expenditures, and disruptions to economic activity.

(c) The special commission shall submit a report with recommendations, including legislation or regulations necessary to carry out such recommendations, to the clerks of the

house of representatives and the senate and the senate and house committees on ways and means not later than December 1, 2026.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Fernandes, Ms. Rausch, Messrs. Mark, Cronin and Eldridge, Ms. Edwards and Messrs. Payano and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2300-0100, by inserting after the word “commissioner” the following:- “; provided further, that funds shall be expended by the department's office of biodiversity for efforts to increase biodiversity and to protect and prepare vulnerable maritime ecosystems from climate impacts and unlock their potential for carbon sequestration”; and by striking out the figure “2,181,542” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “2,268,915”.

343

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Moore moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2511-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$21,000 shall be expended to Yes We Care, Inc. for operation of the food distribution program”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$121,000”.

347

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Cronin moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2200-0100, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$40,000 shall be expended for water quality programs administered by the Nashua River Watershed Association”; and by striking out the figure “\$54,120,855” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$54,160,855”.

353

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Finegold and Moore moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section 36 the following sections:-

354

“SECTION 36A. Section 137 of chapter 140 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by inserting after subsection (d) the following new subsection:-

(e) A keeper of a dog may, while in a licensed kennel, remove an affixed tag if the dog has another means of identification including, but not limited to, a microchip or tattoo; provided, however, that proof of licensure by means of tag, electronic record, certificate or other verifiable method shall be accessible and available onsite at the kennel. The licensed kennel or dog keeper shall maintain access to a microchip reader capable of reading common microchip formats if microchips are being used for identification purposes in lieu of a tag for any dogs onsite.

SECTION 36B. Subsection (b) of section 145B of said chapter 140, as so appearing, is hereby amended by inserting at the end thereof the following words:- A keeper of a dog may choose, while in a licensed kennel, to not affix the tag if the dog has another means of identification including, but not limited to, a microchip or tattoo; provided, however, that the vaccination certificate shall be made accessible and available onsite. The licensed kennel or dog keeper shall maintain access to a microchip reader capable of reading common microchip formats if microchips are being used for identification purposes in lieu of a tag for any dogs onsite.”; and

By inserting after section 68 the following section:-

“SECTION 68A. Section 85A of chapter 272 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out the word ‘dollars.’ and inserting in place thereof the following words:- ‘dollars; provided, however, that a keeper of a dog may, while in a licensed kennel, remove the license tag of a dog in accordance with sections 137 or 145B of chapter 140, and such removal shall not constitute a violation of this section’.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Kennedy and Messrs. Gómez, Mark, Tarr and O'Connor moved that the proposed

357



new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2511-0100, by striking out the figure “\$750,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$1,000,000”; and by striking out the figure “\$11,677,101” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$11,927,101”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Miranda, Messrs. Eldridge, Payano and Fernandes, Ms. Rausch and Ms. Jehlen moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2000-0101, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended to Alternatives for Community & Environment, Inc. for a REEP-led air pollution mitigation program to protect the health of residents within environmental justice communities and to identify pollution hotspots and conduct outreach efforts to support residents”; and by striking out the figure “\$5,127,889” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$5,227,889”.

358

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Mark moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding sections:-

363

“SECTION 1. Section 2 of Chapter 21 as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition of Massachusetts General Laws, is hereby further amended by striking it entirety and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

Section 2: Stewardship council

Section 2. The department shall be under the control of a stewardship council, which shall consist of 13 persons to be appointed by the governor in the manner provided in this chapter.

Each person appointed to the stewardship council shall serve for terms of five calendar years commencing on January 1 of the year appointed. No such person shall serve more than two terms (full or partial). The governor shall make appointments in a manner consistent with staggered terms, with the number of councilors apportioned as nearly equally as possible by year of term expiration. In the event that an appointment in any given year would cause the term of more than 3 councilors to expire in the same year, the new appointee’s term of appointment shall be for four years or such lesser term as complies with the preceding sentence. The governor shall, with collaboration from the chairperson, ensure orderly transition of councilors originally appointed for seven-year terms to staggered five-year terms.

The council shall elect, at least annually, its own chairperson, vice chairperson, and secretary, and shall make the appointments required to be made by it in the manner herein provided. No council member shall serve as chairperson for more than three successive years.

SECTION 2. Section 2C of Chapter 21 as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition of Massachusetts General Laws, is hereby further amended by striking it entirety and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

Section 2C: Meetings of council; joint meetings with advisory board

Section 2C. The stewardship council shall meet within the commonwealth within thirty days after appointment and at least once a month thereafter. Six stewardship council members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, except in the case of appointment or removal of any person appointed by the stewardship council, or the approval of the appointment or removal of a division director. No appointment or removal of any person appointed by the stewardship council and no approval of the appointment or removal of a division director, shall be valid unless written notice of the meeting for such an appointment or removal or approval thereof, setting forth the business to be transacted thereat, shall have been sent by registered mail to each stewardship council member at least twenty-one days prior to such meeting, and then only by the affirmative vote of three or more members present and voting.

The stewardship council and the fisheries, wildlife and recreational vehicles advisory



board shall meet jointly at least twice each year and may establish such policies as appear to be in the general interest.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Fernandes and Cyr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7027-0019, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$200,000 shall be expended for research and education at The Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole;”.

365

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Mark moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2810-0122, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for the Hoosac Lake Recreation and Preservation District for their sediment removal project aiming to preserve and expand the historical and environmental legacy of the lake, including improving water quality, reducing invasive species, and preserving natural resources”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

371

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Fattman, Mrs. Dooner and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_ the following sections:-

382

“SECTION X. This Act shall be entitled the ‘The Electricity Bill Transparency Act,’ and shall be construed in a manner to achieve its public purpose, which is to ensure that affordable electric service be available to all consumers on reasonable terms and conditions.

SECTION X. Chapter 169 of the acts of 2008 is hereby amended by inserting after section 116, the following new sections:-

‘Section 116A. The executive office of energy and environmental affairs shall annually report the estimated or actual ratepayer cost and benefits of each program and policy required under chapter 169 of the acts of 2008 to the joint committee on telecommunications, utilities and energy. Said report shall be submitted to the committee no later than January 31 of each year. Whenever possible, the reported costs shall be presented on a volumetric percentage of electricity supplied from renewable resources to each end user customer class.

Section 116B. All information reported by the executive office of energy and environmental affairs as required under section 116A of this act shall be made available as a public record and posted to the department of energy resources website simultaneously with submittal to the joint committee on telecommunications, utilities and energy.

Section 116C. All actual ratepayer costs of each program and policy required under chapter 169 of the acts of 2008 shall be itemized on each end user’s electric utility bill.’

SECTION X. Chapter 179 of the acts of 2022 is hereby amended by inserting after section 91, the following new sections:-

Section 91A. The executive office of energy and environmental affairs shall annually report the estimated or actual ratepayer cost and benefits of each program and policy required under chapter 179 of the acts of 2022 to the joint committee on telecommunications, utilities and energy. Said report shall be submitted to the committee no later than January 31 of each year. Whenever possible, the reported costs shall be presented on a volumetric percentage of electricity supplied from renewable resources to each end user customer class.

Section 91B. All information reported by the executive office of energy and environmental affairs as required under section 91A of this act shall be made available as a public record and posted to the department of energy resources website simultaneously with submittal to the joint committee on telecommunications, utilities and energy.

Section 91C. All actual ratepayer costs of each program and policy required under chapter 179 of the acts of 2022 shall be itemized on each end user’s electric utility bill.

SECTION X. Chapter 239 of the acts of 2024 is hereby amended by inserting after section 136, the following new sections:-

‘Section 136A. The executive office of energy and environmental affairs shall annually report the estimated or actual ratepayer cost and benefits of each program and policy required under chapter 239 of the acts of 2024 to the joint committee on telecommunications, utilities and energy. Said report shall be submitted to the committee no later than January 31 of each year. Whenever possible, the reported costs shall be presented on a volumetric percentage of electricity supplied from renewable resources to each end user customer class.

Section 136B. All information reported by the executive office of energy and environmental affairs as required under section 136A of this act shall be made available as a public record and posted to the department of energy resources website simultaneously with submittal to the joint committee on telecommunications, utilities and energy.

Section 116C. All actual ratepayer costs of each program and policy required under chapter 239 of the acts of 2024 shall be itemized on each end user’s electric utility bill.’.”

SECTION X. The department of public utilities shall promulgate rules and regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this act.

SECTION X. The department of energy resources shall promulgate rules and regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this act.

SECTION X. This act shall take effect upon its passage.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Fattman and Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_ the following section:-

“SECTION X. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, including but not limited to chapter 21N of the General Laws and chapter 8 of the acts of 2021, any statewide or sector-specific greenhouse gas emissions limits, benchmarks, or reduction requirements established therein shall be considered aspirational goals and shall not have the force of law as binding mandates.

SECTION X. Section 3B of chapter 21N of the General Laws, as amended by section 10 of chapter 8 of the acts of 2021, is hereby further amended by striking the word ‘shall’ and inserting in place thereof the word ‘should’.

SECTION X. Section 3(b½) of Chapter 21N of the General Laws, as inserted by section 11 of chapter 8 of the acts of 2021, is hereby amended by striking the words ‘shall promulgate regulations establishing’ and inserting in place thereof the words ‘may adopt policies supporting’.

SECTION X. The secretary of energy and environmental affairs shall revise all relevant public-facing documents, reporting frameworks, and planning documents to reflect that greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets are nonbinding objectives intended to guide state energy and environmental policy.

SECTION X. This section shall take effect immediately upon its passage.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

**As previously stated, the above amendments were considered as one and *rejected*.**

**There being no objection, the following amendments were considered as one, and adopted, as follows:**

Mr. Moore moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7007-0952, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$250,000 shall be expended to the Worcester Natural History Society, doing business as the EcoTarium Museum of Science and Nature in the city of Worcester, for its zoological park to support the daily care of animals, community education programming and capital improvements to animal habitats”; and by striking out the figure “\$4,700,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$4,950,000”.

386

2

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Cyr, Ms. Edwards, Ms. Miranda and Messrs. O'Connor, Collins, Eldridge, Payano and Gómez moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7007-0300, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$200,000 shall be expended for the Massachusetts Center for Employee Ownership for the purpose of contracting for services and other operational costs that further the mission of the center”; and by striking out the figure “\$1,750,071” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$1,950,071”.

17

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Eldridge moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended to the Hudson Cultural Alliance, Inc. for the planning, construction, renovation, property management and maintenance work at the Hudson Armory located at the intersection of Park and Washington streets in the town of Hudson”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$200,000”.

24

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Creem moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$20,000 shall be expended for Brookline Chamber of Commerce, Inc. to promote local business districts and attractions through its Discover Brookline campaign”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$120,000”.

29

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Creem moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7004-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$90,000 shall be expended to Pathway to Possible, Inc. in the city of Newton to provide housing, support and advocacy for people with cognitive and developmental disabilities”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$190,000”.

30

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Creem moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7004-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$45,000 shall be expended for Newton At Home, Inc. to provide financial assistance to qualifying seniors in the city of Newton”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$145,000”.

31

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Creem moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7004-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$55,000 shall be expended for Welcome Home, Inc. in the city of Newton for its home goods pantry”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$155,000”.

32

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Creem moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-0900, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$45,000 shall be expended to Historic Newton, Inc. to upgrade and develop exhibits that educate the public on local history”; and by striking out the figure “\$283,203” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$328,203”.

33

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Creem, Mr. Gómez, Ms. Miranda, Mr. Eldridge, Ms. Lovely and Mr. Cyr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7004-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided that not less than \$150,000 shall be expended for the Jewish Alliance for Law and Social Action, Inc. for outreach related to and the operation of its confronting the history of housing discrimination curriculum and for the development of

34

additional curriculum units”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$250,000”.

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Durant moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$75,000 shall be expended for the purpose of a design and engineering study for the revitalization of Eagle Lake Recreation Area in the town of Holden”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$175,000”.

36

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Durant moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to the Quaboag Historical Society, Inc. in the town of West Brookfield for a new roof at the Quaboag Historical Society Museum”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

37

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Miranda and Messrs. Eldridge and Payano moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$60,000 shall be expended for Equitable Opportunities Now to provide programs, services and technical assistance to support equitable economic opportunities in the cannabis industry for people from communities harmed by the war on drugs”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$160,000”.

53

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Rush and Collins moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7004-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$150,000 shall be expended to Compass Working Capital, Inc. to support the expansion of the Family Self-Sufficiency program to eligible households in the greater Boston area”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$250,000”.

54

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Rush moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7002-0040, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to Southwest Boston Community Development Corporation to assist with planning, programming and operations”; and by striking out the figure “\$5,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$5,050,000”.

56

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Fernandes moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$15,000 shall be expended for the Salvation Army for supporting people in need in Plymouth and Kingston”; and by striking out the figure \$100,000 and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$115,000”.

68

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Fernandes and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for the Plymouth Area Chamber of Commerce to support the promotion of tourism”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$125,000”.

69

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Fernandes moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for the town of Plympton for infrastructure improvements at the town

71

center complex”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$125,000”.

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Fernandes and Cyr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$75,000 shall be expended to OpenCape Corporation to support high-speed internet access in the towns of Plymouth and Falmouth”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$175,000”.

72

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Fernandes and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7004-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to the Volunteers of America Massachusetts Plymouth Area Veterans Center to support a planning study on veteran housing”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$125,000”.

74

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Fernandes moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7004-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to Belonging to Each Other, Inc. in the town of Falmouth to support those experiencing homelessness in their transition to stable housing by providing temporary cold-weather housing and year-round compassionate, supportive services”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$125,000”.

75

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Fernandes moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for the Plymouth Downtown Waterfront District to support the promotion of tourism”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$125,000”.

76

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Fernandes moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$30,000 shall be expended for See Plymouth to support radio promotion of tourism”; and by striking out the figure \$100,000 and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$130,000”.

77

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Fernandes moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$15,000 shall be expended for the Sandwich Glass Museum to support renovations”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$115,000”.

78

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Fernandes moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for the Sagamore Visitor Center to support the promotion of tourism”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$125,000”.

79

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Fernandes moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$15,000 shall be expended for The Local Seen in Plymouth for equipment and to expand outreach” and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$115,000”.

80

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Fernandes moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item

81



7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$20,000 shall be expended for the town of Pembroke to support water treatment”; and by striking out the figure \$100,000 and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$120,000”.

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Fernandes moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for the town of Plymouth to complete the restoration of historic Spooner’s Alley”; and by striking out the figure \$100,000 and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

82

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Moore moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$57,000 shall be expended to the town of Millbury for repairs and improvements to the Millbury senior center”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$157,000”.

84

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Finegold and Tarr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$75,000 shall be expended to Essex County Community Foundation Incorporated for the provision of financial support to community development and improvement projects in the county of Essex”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$175,000”.

92

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Finegold, O'Connor and Montigny moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$250,000 shall be expended for a grant program to support youth sports nonprofit programs that primarily serve low-income or marginalized students and that seek to foster improved outcomes in physical health, mental well-being, school participation and sense of community”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$350,000”.

93

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Cronin moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7002-0010, by striking out the figure “\$750,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$1,500,000”, and by striking out the figure “\$6,358,084” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$7,108,084”.

94

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Barrett moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7004-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$75,000 shall be expended to maintain patient safety and security at the Community Day Center of Waltham, Inc”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “175,000”.

97

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Cronin moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$15,000 shall be expended for Young Craftsman Foundation, Inc. for equipment procurement to support emerging workers in the trades in the commonwealth”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$115,000”.

98

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Barrett moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7004-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$80,000 shall be expended to support staffing at W.A.T.C.H., Inc. and to prevent evictions”; and by

99



striking out the figure “100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “180,000”.

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Fernandes and Cyr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$30,000 shall be expended to Cape Cod Blue Economy Foundation, Inc. to develop regionally agreed-upon blue economy curriculum, course options and implementation and evaluation standards for K-12 students”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$130,000”.

100

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Kennedy, Ms. Miranda and Mr. Cyr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$200,000 shall be expended to the Massachusetts Women of Color Coalition, Inc. to support its continued operation and expand program delivery”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$300,000”.

101

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Kennedy moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to the Latin American Business Organization Inc. to provide technical assistance to historically disadvantaged businesses in Worcester county focused on financial management, access to capital, legal compliance, startup fundamentals and supplier diversity certification”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$125,000”.

102

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Kennedy, Mr. Cyr, Ms. Jehlen and Mr. Eldridge moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7004-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$450,000 shall be expended to Father Bill’s & MainSpring, Inc., the Western Massachusetts Network to End Homelessness and Central Massachusetts Housing Alliance, Inc. for ongoing coordination and collaboration to prevent and end homelessness and a pilot program to identify and create regional solutions to reduce the number of families needing shelter; provided further, that said entities shall meet quarterly with the secretary of housing and livable communities, the chair of the senate committee on ways and means, the chair of the house committee on ways and means and the house and senate chairs of the joint committee on housing to report on ongoing efforts, including, but not limited to: (i) identifying root causes of homelessness; (ii) identifying gaps in services and barriers to housing stability; (iii) identifying early intervention opportunities; and (iv) collating and analyzing data that informs proposed recommendations for reform”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$550,000”.

104

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Barrett moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$250,000 shall be expended to the town of Concord for planning the reuse and redevelopment of the former Massachusetts Correctional Institution, Concord”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$350,000”.

106

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Lewis, Ms. Rausch and Mr. Cyr moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section 70 the following section:-

107

“SECTION 70A. Item 7008-0900 of section 2 of chapter 140 of the acts of 2024 is hereby amended by striking out the words ‘12 months after the effective date of this act’ and inserting in place thereof the following words:- ‘December 15, 2025’.”

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Lewis moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$75,000 shall be expended to the city of Malden for the installation of public art in the city”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$175,000”.

108

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Kennedy, Velis, Gómez and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7002-0010, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$175,000 shall be expended for FORGE to operate a statewide program that promotes manufacturing and innovation by supporting manufacturing readiness for startups and connecting them to commonwealth-based manufacturers to promote local supply chains and future resiliency”; and by striking out the figure “\$6,358,084” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$6,533,084”.

111

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Fattman and Moore moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$350,000 shall be expended to the Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce, Inc. in the village of Whitinsville in the town of Northbridge for workforce training, small business expansion and regional economic development initiatives”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$450,000”.

113

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Kennedy, Lewis, Collins, Moore, Eldridge, Payano and Finegold and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2200-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$500,000 shall be expended for the department of environmental protection to develop an employment social enterprise impact pilot program to provide funding for at least 1 nonprofit entity to provide recycling services with the overall goal of fostering job security for individuals facing barriers to employment through the provision of mattress recycling work opportunities; provided further, that eligible applicants shall have a demonstrated history of providing mattress recycling services in the commonwealth as an approved vendor to the department for not less than 5 years; provided further, that contracts through the program may be awarded for periods no less than 5 years, with options or renewal, with a minimum annual funding amount of \$500,000”; and by striking out the figure “\$488,748” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$988,748”.

114

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Kennedy moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7004-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$75,000 shall be expended to Community Teamwork Inc. to administer a program for emergency needs for families in crisis”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$175,000”.

115

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Kennedy moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$125,000 shall be expended to Greater Lowell Community Foundation, Inc. in the city of Lowell for community programs”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$225,000”.

116

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Fattman moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$30,000 shall be expended to Waters Farm Preservation, Inc. in the town of Sutton for infrastructure

117

improvements to its historic site and costs associated with the town of Sutton's 250th anniversary celebration"; and by striking out the figure "\$100,000" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$130,000".

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Kennedy moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- "; provided further, that not less than \$10,000 shall be expended for the Worcester Caribbean American Carnival Association, Incorporated for cultural events in the city of Worcester; provided further, that not less than \$10,000 shall be expended for the Black Heritage Juneteenth Festival in the city of Worcester; provided further, that not less than \$10,000 shall be expended to Casita Cultura Latina, Inc. for the Día de los Muertos event and other cultural events in the city of Worcester; provided further, that not less than \$10,000 shall be expended to AIDS Project - Worcester Inc. for the Pride Worcester festival to be celebrated by the Greater Worcester community"; and by striking out the figure "\$100,000" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$140,000".

119

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Miranda moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- "; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to The Modern Mentor Inc. for the purpose of youth mentorship and personal development"; and by striking out the figure "\$100,000" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$125,000".

121

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Miranda moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- "; provided further, that not less than \$20,000 shall be expended to AccessMA, Inc. to expand access to health and human resources to those who have been incarcerated, their families and impacted communities"; and by striking out the figure "\$100,000" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$120,000".

122

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Miranda moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- "; provided further, that not less than \$40,000 shall be expended to St. Stephen's Youth Program at the Mattahunt elementary school for the continued operation of its Parent Mentoring program"; and by striking out the figure "\$100,000" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$140,000".

123

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Miranda moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- "; provided further, that not less than \$20,000 shall be expended to Daddy & Me Incorporated for their literacy program to promote a love of reading in young people"; and by striking out the figure "\$100,000" and inserting in place thereof the figure:- "\$120,000".

125

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Miranda moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7004-0107, by adding the following words:- "; provided further, that not less than \$40,000 shall be expended to the Boston Housing Authority for improvements to exterior space at the Gallivan Boulevard apartment community and to support community gardening and resident-driven food sustainability initiatives"; and by striking out the figure "\$100,000" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$140,000".

126

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Lewis moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- "; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended to the town of Stoneham for transportation infrastructure and pedestrian accessibility improvements"; and by striking out the figure "\$10,000,000" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$10,100,000".

127

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Kennedy moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to the Worcester Community Action Council, Inc for the implementation of equity strategies in the Greater Worcester Community Health Improvement Plan”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$125,000”.

129

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. DiDomenico, Ms. Rausch and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-0900, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$200,000 shall be expended to the Museum of Science for improvements to the Theater of Electricity and the development of more interactive exhibit demonstrations”; and by striking out the figure “\$283,203” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$483,203”.

131

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. DiDomenico moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for East End House, Inc. in the city of Cambridge to provide comprehensive support services for families; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for the Cambridge Economic Opportunity Committee, Inc. in the city of Cambridge for economic stability and mobility services; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for the Margaret Fuller House, Incorporated in the city of Cambridge for community advancement programming; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for Global Arts Live in the city of Cambridge to support their youth engagement programs; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to Sponsor Inc., d/b/a Mission. Earth, for the services and community programs of Cambridge Nonprofit Coalition in the city of Cambridge; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for Just-A-Start Corporation’s biomedical careers program in the city of Cambridge; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for the John F. Kennedy Family Service Center, Inc. in the Charlestown section of the city of Boston to provide community services”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$300,000”.

132

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. DiDomenico moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for Chelsea Black Community, Inc. in the city of Chelsea for community-based services and resources; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for Community Action Programs Inter-City, Inc. in the city of Chelsea for economic stability and mobility services; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for La Comunidad, Inc. in the city of Everett to support community programming and services; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to the Everett Haitian Community Center in the city of Everett for community programming, resources and services; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for Latinos Unidos en Massachusetts in the city of Everett to provide community resources, programming and support; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for Eliot Family Resource Center in the city of Everett for comprehensive community-based services and resources”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$275,000”.

133

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Lewis moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall

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be expended to the town of Stoneham supporting the operation of the Stoneham Public Library”; and by striking out the figure “\$10,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$10,100,000”.

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Kennedy moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to Worcester Refugee and Immigrant Support and Empowerment (RISE) for Health, Inc to support community healthcare workers”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

137

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Miranda moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to Mattapan Food and Fitness Coalition for the purpose of promoting health, wellness, and an active lifestyle for the Mattapan community”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

138

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Kennedy moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$65,000 shall be expended to the town of Northborough for downtown public sidewalk improvements”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$165,000”.

139

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Moore moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$20,000 shall be expended to the South Worcester Neighborhood Improvement Corporation to provide housing, employment, health services, food security and education programming”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$120,000”.

142

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. DiDomenico moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7004-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended to the Boston Housing Authority to support housing and relocation services associated with redevelopment of the Bunker Hill housing development in the Charlestown section of the city of Boston”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$200,000”.

144

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Gómez and Oliveira moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$250,000 shall be expended as a grant to Urban Impact Initiative Massachusetts to support organizations and programs in the cities of Springfield and Chicopee”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$350,000”.

145

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Friedman moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided, that not less than \$85,000 shall be expended for Saheli, Inc. in Woburn for legal and housing assistance work for immigrant survivors of domestic abuse”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$185,000”.

148

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Friedman moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for Social Capital Inc. in Woburn for youth leadership and civic engaging

149



programming, migrant support and health equity work”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$200,000”.

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Mark, Ms. Rausch and Messrs. Keenan and Cyr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 0640-0300, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended as an honorarium to the official Poet Laureate of Massachusetts pursuant to executive order number 640”; and by striking out the figure “\$26,045,152” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$26,070,152”.

159

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Miranda moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2511-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further that \$25,000 shall be expended to the Edward L. Cooper Community Gardening & Education Center for the Emergency Food Pantry to operate and provide eligible community members with access to food”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$125,000”.

160

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Mark moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$75,000 shall be expended to the Norman Rockwell Museum, Inc. to showcase illustration art to reflect and shape society and advance the enduring Rockwell values of kindness, respect and social equity”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$175,000”.

161

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Mark moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for the Blackshires Community Empowerment Foundation in the City of Pittsfield to empower and uplift the community through comprehensive initiatives in education, leadership development, housing, economic growth, and health”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

163

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. O'Connor and Collins, Mrs. Dooner, Messrs. Tarr and Cyr, Ms. Lovely and Mr. Montigny moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7002-1091, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$150,000 shall be expended to the Massachusetts Marine Trades Association for workforce development training opportunities and technical education in secondary and post-secondary schools for careers in the marine trades”; and by striking out the figure “\$8,985,600” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$9,135,600”.

164

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Mark moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to Nonprofit Center of the Berkshires, Inc. to provide resources and technical assistance for local nonprofit organizations in Berkshire County”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

165

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Mark moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for the Berkshire Theatre Group for the repairs and replacement of the roof at the historical Playhouse in Stockbridge”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

166

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Mark moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-

167



1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission to support the work of the Berkshire Funding Focus program”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Edwards and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$45,000 shall be expended to the Friends of the Public Garden, Inc. to expand infrastructure to increase accessibility of public bathrooms at the Boston Common and Public Garden in the city of Boston”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$145,000”.

170

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Miranda and Ms. Jehlen moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to F.A.M.I.L.Y. Movement, Inc. to assist families transition out of homeless shelters and into stable and permanent living arrangements and by teaching and mentoring homeless youth and families on how to become financially independent with a goal of ending generational poverty and homelessness; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended to the Boston chapter of Youth Guidance for programming for at-risk youth; provided further, that not less than \$120,000 shall be expended to the Center for Teen Empowerment, Inc. for programming and support for at-risk youth”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$370,000”.

173

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Miranda moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$40,000 shall be expended to Mattapan/ Greater Boston Technology Learning Center, Inc. to empower individuals and foster self-sufficiency through job training, career development and leadership initiatives”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$140,000”.

174

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Miranda moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that \$40,000 shall be expended to Blue Bridge LLC to serve historically underserved groups by making healthcare research more inclusive and putting diverse populations within reach of care”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$140,000”.

176

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Miranda moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further that \$20,000 shall be expended to The Boston Showstoppers for the purpose of developing elite female student-athletes through competitive basketball, academic excellence, and a culture rooted in sisterhood, service, and personal growth”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$120,000”.

177

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Miranda moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$20,000 shall be expended to Boston Lions Track Team to empower youth through track and field”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the figure:- “\$120,000”.

178

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Miranda moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall

181

be expended to the One Love Sports Academy Program for violence prevention programming, extracurricular activities, and leadership development for at-risk and proven-risk youth in the neighborhoods of Boston with the highest rates of community violence and gun violence” and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “125,000”.

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Edwards moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2511-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$10,000 shall be expended for food services at the Veterans Food Bank in the city known as the town of Winthrop; provided further, that not less than \$10,000 shall be expended for food services at the Grace Church Federated in the East Boston section of the city of Boston; provided further, that not less than \$10,000 shall be expended for food services at the Friday Night Supper Program, Inc. in the Back Bay section of the city of Boston; provided further, that not less than \$10,000 shall be expended for the food pantry at the First Congregational Church of Revere in the city of Revere; provided further, that not less than \$10,000 shall be expended for the East Boston Community Soup Kitchen, Inc. to provide food aid and additional services”.

182

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Velis and Oliveira moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$40,000 shall be expended for the American Legion Auxiliary Fairview Unit 438, Inc. in the city of Chicopee for kitchen renovations and other building improvements”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$140,000”.

184

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Velis moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for the Irish Cultural Center, Inc. of Western New England in the city known as the town of West Springfield for improvements to promote cultural events and tourism in the western region of the commonwealth”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

185

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Velis moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$70,000 shall be expended for the Saint Patrick’s Parade Committee of Holyoke, Inc. in the city of Holyoke for an economic development study and continued operations to advance tourism, cultural events and economic development initiatives in the city of Holyoke”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$170,000”.

186

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Velis moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$10,000 shall be expended for Operation Veteran Vacation, Inc. in the town of Ludlow for programming”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$110,000”.

188

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Velis moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for Amelia Park Children’s Museum, Inc. in the city of Westfield for capital improvements and community programming for local children”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

189

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Edwards moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7004-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for Crossroads Family Shelter in the East Boston section of the city of Boston to provide mental health, substance use and clinical recovery services for those impacted by family homelessness”.

191

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Edwards moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$5,000 shall be expended to Friends of the Public Garden, Inc. for the lighting of the Boston Women's Memorial on Commonwealth avenue in the city of Boston”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$105,000”.

194

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Crighton moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7004-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$300,000 shall be expended as a grant to the Lynn Housing Authority to provide housing stabilization services and information and referral services to households who face significant barriers to sustaining housing, including, but not limited to, those who are currently or previously have been served with: (i) residential assistance payments under item 7004-9316; or (ii) emergency rental assistance and other services under the state 2019 novel coronavirus eviction diversion initiative”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$400,000”.

196

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Edwards moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by inserting the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to the Veronica Robles Cultural Center to provide cultural education and programming to youth and the community”.

197

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Edwards moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$70,000 shall be expended to ZUMIX, Inc. in the East Boston section of the city of Boston for the organization of the East Boston Latino Festival in the summer of 2025”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$170,000”.

198

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Miranda moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$40,000 to BAMS Fest, Inc. for cultural programming centered on racial equity, creative freedom and economic empowerment for creative entrepreneurs”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the figure:- “\$140,000”.

199

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Miranda moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that \$45,000 shall be expended for Philanthropy Massachusetts, Inc. to partner with local programs that establish economic engine initiatives to increase access to economic opportunities and support community programming in the greater Boston area”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$145,000”.

200

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Brady moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to Mosaic Public Media, Inc. to assist immigrants, refugees and asylees in their resettlement by providing social assistance, immigrant services and promoting civic

209

engagement and community integration in the city of Brockton”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$125,000”.

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Brady moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to the Downtown Brockton Association, Inc. for the cleanup and beautification of the downtown area in the city of Brockton”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

210

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Brady moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$20,000 shall be expended to the Henricus Training Center LLC for free and income-based training to increase access to the workforce for individuals who face barriers to employment, including English language skills, cultural gaps and life skills in the city of Brockton”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$120,000”.

211

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Brady moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7004-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended to the Brockton Housing Authority for the redevelopment of the Campello High Rise in the city of Brockton”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$200,000”.

212

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Brady moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to the Choices4Teens Mentoring Group Inc. for a mentoring program to improve outcomes for at-risk youth, address social and behavioral issues and support violence prevention in the city of Brockton”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$125,000”.

213

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Kennedy moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$250,000 shall be expended to the Town of Pepperell towards various equipment necessary for the regional food hub located at 20 Mill Street in the town of Pepperell”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$350,000”.

214

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Montigny and Cyr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7004-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$75,000 shall be expended for SouthCoast Fair Housing, Inc. to promote equitable access to safe, affordable housing for all residents throughout Bristol and Plymouth Counties”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$175,000”.

218

The amendment was adopted.

Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7002-0010, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$170,000 shall be expended to the city of Taunton for the demolition of outdated structures at a remediated site in the city to support new housing and commercial redevelopment opportunities”; and by striking out the figure “\$6,358,084” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$6,528,084”.

227

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Driscoll, Collins and Eldridge moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7003-1206, by striking out the figure “\$1,386,000” and inserting in

228

place thereof the figure:- “\$2,000,000”.

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Payano and Finegold moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to Team Haverhill, Inc. to support climate resilience programs and for overall community improvement in the city of Haverhill”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

231

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Payano and Finegold moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7003-0100, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for Community Action Inc.’s MakeIT Haverhill program”; and by striking out the figure “\$2,334,936” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$2,384,936”.

232

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Payano moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended to Methuen Arlington Neighborhood, Inc. to increase and enhance entrepreneurial opportunities, neighborhood investment, revitalization activities, and the self-sufficiency of low-income and moderate-income residents of the Methuen Arlington section of the city of Methuen”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$200,000”.

236

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Montigny moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended to the Animal Rescue League of New Bedford, in collaboration with Lighthouse Animal Shelter, Inc., CARE Southcoast, Inc., and Hearts 4 Paws, Inc., to establish the Eleanor Mackler-Kruczek Compassionate Care Fund for discounted and no-cost veterinary services for low-income residents in the Greater New Bedford area; provided further, that no funds for said program shall be used for salary or administrative costs”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “200,000”.

247

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Velis moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 1410-1616, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$15,000 shall be expended for the Agawam Veterans Council in the city known as the town of Agawam for assistance with veterans memorials”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$115,000”.

280

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Friedman and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 1450-1200, by striking out the figure “\$12,610,954” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$13,610,954”.

306

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Brownsberger moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2810-0100, by inserting the following:- “; provided further, that not less than \$506,908 shall be expended to build fencing along the Birmingham Parkway in the Brighton section of the city of Boston”; and by striking out the figure “\$112,563,141” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$113,070,049”.

325

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Eldridge moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2000-0100, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$30,000 shall be expended to enter into an agreement with OARS, Inc. to operate a water quality

329



monitoring program in the Sudbury, Assabet and Concord rivers”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$130,000”.

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Eldridge moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2810-0122, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for the Friends of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail, Inc. to provide equipment for the benefit of area rail trails, including, but not limited to, the Assabet River Rail Trail, the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail and the Mass Central Rail Trail”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

331

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Creem moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2511-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for the Wellesley Food Pantry, Inc. for programming and supports for food insecure families and individuals in the town of Wellesley”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

332

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Creem moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2511-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$150,000 shall be expended to the Charles River Regional Chamber, Inc., in coordination with the Brookline Chamber of Commerce, Inc., to provide grants to independent restaurants located in the city of Newton and the towns of Brookline and Wellesley to supply prepared meals and other food products to food banks serving those communities, senior programs and other programs addressing food insecurity needs of individuals in those communities; provided further, that not less than \$65,000 of such funds shall be allocated for grants to independent restaurants in the city of Newton; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 of such funds shall be allocated for grants to independent restaurants in the town of Brookline; provided further, that not less than \$35,000 of those funds shall be allocated for grants to independent restaurants in the town of Wellesley”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$250,000”.

333

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Eldridge moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2511-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$120,000 shall be expended to Boston Area Gleaners Incorporated for improvements to Stonefield farm located on Martin street in the town of Acton to continue its work to help families facing food insecurity”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$220,000”.

334

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Durant moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2810-0122, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$40,000 shall be expended to Hardwick Pond Preservation Association, Inc. for invasive species control on Hardwick pond in the town of Hardwick”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$140,000”.

335

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Rush moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2810-0122, by inserting the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$175,000 shall be expended to the department of conservation and recreation for the design, planning and construction of Havey beach in the West Roxbury section of the city of Boston”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$275,000”.

340

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Fernandes moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item

342

2810-0100, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for the town of Kingston to support the required update to Kingston’s Hazardous Mitigation Plan”; and by striking the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$125,000”.

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Fernandes, Moore, Cyr and Montigny moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2000-0100, by inserting after the words “all departments” the following:- “provided further, that not less than \$150,000 shall be expended for a coastal water quality and natural resource monitoring program in Buzzards Bay and Vineyard Sound administered by the Buzzards Bay Coalition, Inc.”.

344

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Moore moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2810-0122, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$70,000 shall be expended to the town of Grafton for the removal of invasive plants”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$170,000”.

346

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Finegold moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2810-0122, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$20,000 shall be expended for maintenance and improvements to a pocket park in the city of Amesbury”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$120,000”.

349

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Finegold moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2810-0122, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$55,000 shall be expended for the purchase and installation of backstop fencing at the Puglielli softball field at Riverside Park in the city of Haverhill”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$155,000”.

350

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Finegold moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2810-0122, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to the city of Haverhill for the replacement of a pedestrian bridge in the Clement Farm Conservation Area”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$125,000”.

351

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. DiDomenico moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2511-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for Harvest on Vine Food Pantry in the Charlestown neighborhood of Boston to provide food resources and services”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$125,000”.

359

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Kennedy moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2511-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to the Regional Environmental Council, Inc. to support its operations and programs to fight for food justice in the city of Worcester and the central region of the commonwealth”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

360

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Friedman moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2511-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for Arlington EATS Inc. to increase food access in the town of Arlington”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:-

361

“\$125,000”.

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Friedman moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2511-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided, that not less than \$60,000 shall be expended for FoodLink, Inc. to address food insecurity in the city of Woburn and the towns of Arlington, Billerica, Burlington and Lexington”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$160,000”.

362

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2511-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended to the Weymouth Food Pantry in the city known as the town of Weymouth for food security programs”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$200,000”.

366

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Edwards moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2300-0101, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to Friends of Belle Isle Marsh, Inc. for the implementation of environmental preservation programs”; and by striking out the figure “\$2,143,914” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$2,193,914”.

367

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Velis moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2810-0122, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for the town of Russell for the replacement of playground equipment”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

368

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Velis and Payano moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2511-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$5,000 shall be expended for Meghan’s Light, Inc. in the town of Hadley for food assistance to individuals struggling with cystic fibrosis”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$105,000”.

369

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Cyr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2330-0100, by adding the following words:- “provided further, that not less than \$30,000 shall be expended to the Cape Cod Commercial Fishermen’s Alliance for a study to assess opportunities to expand the kelp industry”; and by striking out the figure “\$9,639,804” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$9,669,804”.

370

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Cyr and Fernandes moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2330-0100, by adding the following words:- “provided further, that not less than \$150,000 shall be expended for shellfish propagation in Barnstable, Dukes and Nantucket counties to be administered jointly by the director of marine fisheries and the aforementioned counties”; and by striking out the figure “\$9,639,804” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$9,789,804”.

372

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Brady moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2810-0122, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$90,000 shall be expended for the testing and treatment of cyanobacteria and related contaminants in Monponsett Pond in the town of Halifax”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$190,000”.

374

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Brady moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2810-0122, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for the Central Plymouth County Water District commission annual budget for the improvement and management of lakes and ponds in the Central Plymouth County Water District”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

375

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Cyr and Fernandes and Ms. Edwards moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2000-0100, by adding the following words:- “provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to the Massachusetts Housing & Climate Innovation Center for costs associated with the deployment and testing of climate resilience and clean energy technology”; and by striking out the figure “\$18,847,510” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$18,897,510”.

379

The amendment was adopted.

Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2250-2000, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$60,000 shall be expended for PFAs remediation and upgrades to residential filtration systems in the town of Rehoboth”; and by striking out the figure “\$2,459,359” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$2,519,359”.

380

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Driscoll, O'Connor, Rush and Keenan moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2810-0100, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$200,000 shall be expended for the Blue Hills Trailside Museum in the town of Milton”; and by striking out the figure “\$112,563,141” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$112,763,141”.

381

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Payano and Finegold moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2511-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to Somebody Cares New England, Inc. in the city of Haverhill for the operation of its food pantry and to combat food insecurity in the community”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

384

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Payano moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2810-0122, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to the Greater Lawrence Community Boating Program to support youth boating, rowing, and water safety programming at the Abe Bashara Boathouse in Lawrence, including training, certifications, seasonal employment opportunities for low-income youth, and after-school and summer enrichment activities that promote leadership, environmental stewardship and access to the Merrimack River”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

385

The amendment was adopted.

**As previously stated, the above amendments were considered as one and adopted.**

*Moment of Silence.*

At the request of the Chair (Mr. Brownsberger), the members, guests and staff stood in a moment of silence and reflection to the memory of Francis P. Staffier.

Moment of silence.

*Orders of the Day.*

The Orders of the Day were further considered as follows:

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. 4001),-- was further considered, the main question being on ordering the bill to a third reading.

General  
appropriations bill.

Messrs. Moore, Cronin, Durant, Mark, Eldridge and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7007-0150, by adding the following words:- “; provided, that not less than \$1,500,000 shall be utilized for services performed by these organizations and not for attached projects”; and by striking out the figure “\$1,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$2,000,000”.

9

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Rausch, Ms. Kennedy, Messrs. Eldridge, Fernandes and Collins, Ms. Miranda, Messrs. O'Connor and Oliveira, Ms. Lovely and Messrs. Payano, Tarr and Cyr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$200,000 shall be expended to the Massachusetts Women’s History Center, Inc. to amplify the history of women of all backgrounds in the commonwealth”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$300,000”.

18

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Ms. Miranda, Messrs. Gómez, Cronin and Payano, Ms. Rausch, Messrs. Eldridge, Brady and Cyr and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7004-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$500,000 shall be expended for the Saving Towards Affordable and Sustainable Homeownership program administered by MAHA, LLC to provide a matched-savings program, financial literacy and homebuyer education for long-term home ownership stability and to assist first-generation homebuyers in a regionally equitable manner to benefit communities throughout the commonwealth”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$600,000”.

19

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Ms. Miranda and Messrs. Keenan and Cyr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7004-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$150,000 shall be expended to The Builder Coalition, Inc. to advance efforts to meet the commonwealth’s housing production and affordable housing goals by providing support and training to enable emerging local developers to meet construction and community standards and needs”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$250,000”.

21

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Ms. Miranda, Messrs. Gómez, Lewis, Brady, Keenan, Moore and Eldridge, Ms. Rausch, Ms. Jehlen and Messrs. Payano, O'Connor, Collins and Montigny moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7002-0012, by striking out the figure “\$15,240,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$22,100,000”.

28

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Moore moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_\_\_ the following sections:-

6

“SECTION \_\_\_\_ . Section 20 of chapter 40B is hereby amended, in the definition of ‘Low or moderate income housing’ by adding the following sentence:- For the purposes of this definition, low or moderate income for a household shall not exceed 60% of the average median income.

SECTION \_\_\_\_ . Said section of said chapter is hereby further amended, in the definition of ‘Consistent with local needs’ by adding the following sentence:- For the purposes of this definition, the determination of whether of low or moderate income housing exists shall be



the sum of low or moderate income housing where a active building permit has been issued together with low or moderate income housing where building occupancy permits have been issued.”

After remarks, the question on adoption of the amendment, was determined by a standing vote, on motion of Mr. Moore, and it was *rejected* by a vote of 1 to 10.

Mr. Gómez, Ms. Miranda, Mr. Eldridge and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$200,000 shall be expended to the Coalition for an Equitable Economy, Inc. to promote an equitable and inclusive small business ecosystem”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$300,000.” 42

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Mr. Gómez, Ms. Miranda, Messrs. Eldridge, Payano and O'Connor and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$200,000 shall be expended for We Are ALX Inc. to promote equity and economic mobility”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$300,000”. 43

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Gómez and Oliveira moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-0900, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to Springfield Museums Corporation for planned and ongoing improvements in Dinosaur Hall and for expanded interactive and bi-lingual learning opportunities”; and by striking out the figure “\$283,203” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$333,203”. 46

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Keenan and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-0900, by inserting after the words “tourism in the commonwealth”, the following words:- “that shall include, but not be limited to, the feasibility of initiatives to promote the commonwealth as a destination to residents of countries showing declines in travel to the commonwealth since January 1, 2025”. 51

*Remarks of Senator Kelly A. Dooner.*

Good Morning, to my colleagues, and to the gentleman from the Norfolk, Plymouth and Bristol District, you set the bar high for my speech and I am grateful for the opportunity to continue the important discussion on 3A, the MBTA communities act and the challenges our communities face. Thank you to my fearless minority leader, I am grateful to have finally joined minority arc over here and felt it was necessary to keep with tradition using the infamous and beloved minority prop shop.

Remarks of Senator  
Kelly A. Dooner.

First and foremost, I support and have always supported the goal of increasing responsible housing across the commonwealth. We currently have a housing crisis; I am part of the generation that cannot afford to live here. Most people I grew up with have left the state, for several reasons but the main reason being it is unaffordable.

I supported 3A in the City of Taunton, a place where I served as a city councilor for 2 terms. But over those 2 terms, we worked vigorously to prepare our infrastructure for an influx of housing, for the influx of people. And believe me, it is pretty amazing the infrastructure improvements you can make with fiscal management and fiscal responsibility of a budget. It's worth noting, the city of Taunton is a city with a half a billion dollar operating budget...and the ability to invest in infrastructure with proper fiscal planning to prepare for housing, the path is a bit easier than other towns.

The one-size-fits-all mandate doesn't work for my district regarding the “Adjacent

Small Towns” Yellow, it doesn’t work for Senator Tarr’s District, etc...which is a clear indicator of one size does not fit all. As senator Driscoll previously stated, it’s not that some communities don’t want to comply, some are trying but just can’t comply, every community has different infrastructure, capacity, and planning challenges—and those differences matter.

This rigid approach already caused real harm to one of my communities. Middleborough lost a school-based mental health grant for children due to “noncompliance” with 3A. Thankfully, Rep. Gaskey, Rep. Orrall, Rep. LaNatra and myself all working collectively, we were able to successfully reinstate the grant. However, we cannot let mandates jeopardize essential community services. We are facing a major mental health crisis in our commonwealth, and yet a school-based grant for mental health services was stripped away for non-compliance of 3A without a thought. What kind of world are we living in where something like this would even be considered? I have gotten to know most senators in this chamber and believe everyone in this chamber understands how wrong that was. But it is why I am here having this conversation today.

The attorney general recently filed 2 lawsuits against the current federal administration for their threat to withhold funding for non-compliance. Mass.gov website references “strong arming” the commonwealth to participate, “extorting” states to participate. Also, as quoted on the website “that withholding the federal funding will damage public infrastructure across the country and will undermine public trust” this statement, I don’t disagree with. But this statement applies to the commonwealth as well, to our communities being forced to comply and being threatened with having grant funding pulled. We are losing public trust by doing that. We are better than that.

We cannot let mandates jeopardize essential community services. My communities are currently living in fear of what the commonwealth is going to do to them for non-compliance....this is not the example we want to set. We need to be partners with our municipalities and a team working together.

The EOHLC has been very reluctant to work with some towns, but they are real quick to send threats of non-compliance. Except the ones with the means and financial ability to sue.....they are working with those towns. I sat on countless email threads where EOHLC ignored my community asking for help.... but sure enough after that community filed a lawsuit, finally, and I mean finally they decided to work with the town to problem solve....and they came to a resolution and compromise that seemingly worked for everyone. But it should not have taken a lawsuit to get there.

And what about the towns that don’t have the means? The towns who are operating their budgets in a deficit forcing overrides and debt exclusions. They don’t have the fiscal ability to sue the commonwealth....Who is looking out for those towns? I am, several of my colleagues are, and I ask that this body do the same, I understand not all of you are directly affected by 3A, but most of us are and I ask that you help me stand up for those small towns ranging from Worcester, to Bristol, down to Barnstable and all the way up to Essex County, whether it’s an extension or whether its revisiting 3A, both of which I believe need to happen.....please let’s give these communities peace of mind.

Water/infrastructure....

Water – Carver, Berkley and Rehoboth all have on call or volunteer fire fighter departments

This is going to be a learning experience for some of you and I’m here to it, these towns have tankers, water tankers....very few senators with adjacent small towns have this same challenge, generally these tankers as you see carry anywhere from 3,000-4,000 gallons of water.

These tankers go to the nearest watering hole, pond, lake, creek or river to pump water out and into the tanker trucks which takes on average around 8 minutes to fill a 3k gallons,

the water is then dumped into what is called the “portable pond”, an engine then pulls the water from the ponds and feeds the attack engine to put out a fire. For 500 gallons of water, it takes roughly 2.5 minutes to go through it.

Just this past weekend, Raynham (adjacent community) had a fire. Middleborough provided station coverage.

I invite you all to my office later to check out this educational material.

This is what I mean when I say municipalities lack the financial and technical capacity to implement these mandates without support and without time, risking punitive measures like state funding cuts or legal challenges. Our commonwealth does not have the funding to help these towns bring their infrastructure up to date. The budget has nearly doubled in the last 10 years, and our communities are still struggling. They need help, my communities are scared, I have teachers calling me, wondering what limits the commonwealth will go to after what they saw in Middleborough.

The rigid timeline and one-size-fits-all approach does not account for the various transit access and infrastructure realities across the commonwealth, creating pressure on communities to meet goals that may be unrealistic.

So again, I ask and will keep asking that this body have some compassion for our smaller communities, whether it’s an extension or whether it’s revisiting 3A, both of which I believe need to happen.

Our communities want to be partners in solving the housing crisis—but they need infrastructure support, and they need help.

With that regard, I and several others have filed many amendments around 3A to help provide relief and support for affected communities: Amendment nos. 12, 13, 140, 141, 147, 296, 297 & 298.

Please help our small towns by stopping a one size fits all plan and let’s be partners with our municipalities, not the enemy that we have become known as today. Let’s do better and let’s be better.

**On motion of Ms. Comerford, under the provisions of Senate Rule 6A, the remarks were printed in the Journal of the Senate.**

Ordered printed.

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Ms. Kennedy moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$250,000 shall be expended to the New England Botanic Garden at Tower Hill to serve the public through exhibitions and educational programs”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$350,000”.

103

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Mr. O'Connor and Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_\_\_ the following section:-

141

“SECTION \_\_\_\_ . Section 3A of chapter 40A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is hereby amended in subsection (a) by adding at the end thereof the following:- ‘No community without a rail, subway, or ferry station shall have to comply with this section’.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Lovely and Mr. Cyr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7004-0101, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$800,000 shall be expended for the Home Works program to provide opportunities for children in the emergency housing assistance program to attend out-of-school time and summer programming run by youth serving organizations; provided further, that a youth serving organization shall apply to contract with the executive office of housing and livable communities to receive contract slots to serve children in the program; provided further, that the executive office may expend funds for the administration and implementation of the

152

Home Works program”; and by striking out the figure “\$275,271,903” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$276,071,903”.

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Ms. Edwards, Mr. Cyr and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section 70 the following section:-

“SECTION 70A. Subsection (c) of section 128 of chapter 150 of the acts of 2024 is hereby amended by inserting after the word ‘Network’ the following words:- ‘; a representative of Justice for Housing, Inc.’.”

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Ms. Friedman, Ms. Miranda and Messrs. Payano and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for Civic Action Project, Inc. to provide programming and training to civic leaders for new strategic, public-private partnerships for innovative policies”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$200,000”.

The amendment was adopted.

*Recess.*

There being no objection, at twenty-four minutes past twelve o'clock noon, the Chair (Mr. Brownsberger) declared a recess subject to the call of the Chair; and, at twenty-eight minutes before one o'clock P.M., the Senate reassembled, Ms. Creem in the Chair.

*Order of the Day.*

The Orders of the Day were further considered as follows:

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. 4001),-- was further considered, the main question being on ordering the bill to a third reading.

**There being no objection, the following amendments were considered as one, and adopted, as follows:**

Messrs. Cyr and O'Connor and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 0950-0030, by striking out the figure “\$284,272” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$359,272”.

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Cyr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4000-0300, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that funds shall be expended to the Nantucket Cottage Hospital and Martha's Vineyard Hospital for off-island medical transportation, including the transportation of patients with behavioral health conditions”.

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Cyr, Ms. Rausch, Messrs. Tarr and O'Connor and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4510-0600, by inserting after the word “cancer,” the following words:- “potential health impacts of exposure to per- and polyfluoralkyl substances,”.

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Oliveira, Gómez, Mark and Durant, Ms. Edwards and Messrs. O'Connor and Eldridge moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 9110-1900, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for the senior farm share program”; and by striking out the figure “\$12,657,217” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$12,757,217”.

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Creem moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4800-0038, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$20,000 shall be expended to Jewish Family and Children's Service, Inc. for the Bet Tzedek legal services program to the local community”; and by striking out the figure “\$347,707,804” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$347,727,804”.

415

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Creem, Mr. Lewis, Ms. Miranda, Messrs. Montigny, Gómez, Collins, Moore, Eldridge and Payano, Ms. Rausch, Mr. O'Connor and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4590-1504, by striking out the figure “\$9,757,648” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$10,257,648”.

416

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Creem and Messrs. Lewis, Collins, Mark, Eldridge, Payano and Cyr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4100-0063, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$500,000 shall be expended to implement the roadmap to health care safety for the commonwealth, including a pilot program of automated adverse event monitoring in hospitals in the commonwealth”; and by striking out the figure “\$3,174,027” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$3,674,027”.

417

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Creem, Ms. Rausch and Messrs. O'Connor and Tarr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4000-0005, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for the Massachusetts Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence, Inc. for the operation of comprehensive educational programming on gun violence and gun violence prevention”; and by striking out the figure “\$12,600,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$12,650,000”.

418

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Creem moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4000-0300, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$250,000 shall be expended for the Brookline Community Mental Health Center, Inc. to expand the healthy lives program”; and by striking out the figure “\$158,090,882” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$158,340,882”.

419

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Creem moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 5046-0000, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$300,000 shall be expended for the International Institute of New England, Inc. for culturally and linguistically appropriate mental health services”; and by striking out the figure “\$689,980,438” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$690,280,438”.

420

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Creem, Ms. Edwards, Ms. Rausch, Messrs. Moore, O'Connor, Eldridge and Montigny and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4110-1000, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$1,100,000 shall be expended by the Massachusetts commission for the blind to maximize the independent living skills of legally blind residents of the commonwealth through rehabilitation programs, housing assistance services, adjustment counseling services and the provision of accessible devices, assistive software and equipment and supportive technology training provided by qualified nonprofit providers in community, residential, virtual and facility-based settings; provided further, that not less than \$500,000 of said \$1,100,000 shall be made available for the Carroll Center for the Blind, Inc. and not less than \$300,000 of said \$1,100,000 shall be made available for the Massachusetts Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired”; and by striking out the figure “\$8,064,721” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$9,164,721”.

421



The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Keenan, Mark, Moore, Eldridge, Collins, O'Connor, Brady and Tarr and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 5046-0000, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$75,000 shall be expended for the training of mobile crisis intervention teams providing such services to better prepare them to respond to the needs of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities”; and by striking out the figure:- “\$689,980,438” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$690,055,438”.

431

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Keenan, Ms. Jehlen, Mr. Lewis, Ms. Rausch, Messrs. Collins, Moore, Eldridge, Fernandes, O'Connor, Tarr and Montigny and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 9110-1455, by striking out the figure “\$1,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the figure “\$2,000,000”; and by striking out the figure:- “\$19,635,433” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$20,635,433”.

432

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Keenan and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4512-0205, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$15,000 shall be expended to Abington C.O.P.E.S. Inc. for substance use prevention and programming; provided further, that not less than \$15,000 shall be expended to Holbrook Cares, Corp. for substance use prevention and recovery outreach programming; and provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to Rockland Cares Incorporated for recovery support and awareness programming”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$155,000”.

434

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Keenan, Lewis, O'Connor, Eldridge and Montigny moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4513-1112, by striking out the figure “\$6,252,977” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$6,734,753”; and by striking out the figure “\$12,557,534” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$13,039,310”.

436

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Rausch and Ms. Creem moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4516-1000, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that the department of public health shall implement an infectious disease elevated risk community outreach pilot project; provided further, that a school or early education program that has not achieved herd immunity against 1 or more vaccine-preventable infectious diseases, as determined by the department of public health, or has failed to provide the department of public health with vaccination and exemption rate data for the 2023-2024 academic year shall be designated as an elevated risk program; provided further, that the department shall create a notice to parents and caregivers of children in an elevated risk program stating that the program’s community members are at an elevated risk for the spread of 1 or more vaccine-preventable infectious diseases; provided further, that an elevated risk program shall issue the notice to parents and caregivers in the community not later than 10 days after receipt of the notice from the department; provided further, that the department may require an elevated risk program to organize and invite all parents and caregivers in the community to a presentation to be delivered by the department about immunization safety, immunization efficacy and herd immunity; provided further, that the department shall develop and make available online an informational pamphlet containing medically accurate information about immunization safety and immunization efficacy and information about vaccination cost coverage through the Vaccine Purchase Trust Fund established in section 24N of chapter 111 of the General Laws; provided further, that each elevated risk program shall distribute the informational pamphlet, either electronically or in hard copy, to all

439

parents and caregivers of children in the elevated risk program”.

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Keenan and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4510-0110, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$165,000 shall be expended for Manet Community Health Center, Incorporated for purposes including, but not limited to, behavioral health treatment support”; and by striking out the figure “\$5,335,599” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$5,500,599”.

440

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Rush and O'Connor and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 1410-0010, by inserting the following:- “; provided further, that not less than \$330,000 shall be expended for Community Servings to develop and implement a statewide pilot program to provide medically-tailored meals to veterans in the Commonwealth”; and by striking the figure “\$12,435,036” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$12,765,036”.

441

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Rush and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4512-0205, by inserting the following:- “; provided further, that not less than \$250,000 shall be expended to Walker, Inc. for continuation of behavioral health and positive parenting and caregiving services and resources to service and support incarcerated and post-release individuals with children from Suffolk and Norfolk County Sheriff Offices to appropriately promote necessary family bonding and child development that correlates with successful community reintegration and reduced recidivism”.

444

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Fernandes moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4000-0300, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to the town of Plymouth to support health and human services”; and by striking out the figure “\$158,090,882” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$158,115,882”.

460

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Jehlen, Messrs. Moore, Durant, Fernandes, O'Connor, Eldridge, Keenan and Cyr, Ms. Lovely and Mr. Montigny moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 9110-1630, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$300,000 shall be expended for the Alzheimer's Association, Massachusetts Chapter, to expand access to and administer an evidence-based program, Dementia Care Coordination, DCC, in order to reduce hospitalizations, emergency department visits and delay long-term care placements”; and by striking out the figure “\$278,655,704” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$278,955,704”.

462

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Jehlen, Ms. Edwards, Ms. Rausch, Messrs. O'Connor, Eldridge, Keenan, Cyr and Montigny and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 9110-0100, by striking out the words “provided, that not less than \$75,000 shall be expended for the LGBTQIA+ Aging Project of Fenway Health to support the permanent commission on older lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender adults and their caregivers established in section 71 of chapter 3 of the General Laws” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- “provided further that not less than \$120,000 shall be expended to Massachusetts Commission on LGBTQ Aging through Fenway Health for staffing and operations to support the permanent commission on lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and questioning older adults and their caregivers established in section 71 of chapter 3 of the General Laws”; and by striking out the figure “\$5,971,575” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$6,016,575”.

465

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Rausch, Messrs. Keenan and Cyr, Ms. Creem and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4510-0100, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that the department of public health shall prepare written recommendations for the continuity of abortion and abortion-related care in the commonwealth in the event of a loss of federal funding for any health care facility in which abortion services are provided; provided further, that the commissioner of the department or their designee shall form a task force to inform the strategic plan content and creation; provided further, that the task force shall include: a physician who provides abortion care later in pregnancy; an abortion provider who serves rural communities; a nurse who provides abortion care; the chief executive officer of a hospital that provides abortion care later in pregnancy or their designee; the executive director of a licensed clinic that provides abortion care or their designee; the executive director of Reproductive Equity Now Foundation, Inc. or their designee; and any other individuals at the discretion of the commissioner; provided further, that the task force’s written recommendations shall include any recommended legislative changes to ensure continuity of abortion care and services in the commonwealth including, but not limited to, previously filed legislation; provided further, that the written recommendations shall be submitted to the joint committee on health care financing, the joint committee on public health, the joint committee on judiciary, the house and senate committees on ways and means and the clerks of the house of representatives and senate not later than December 31, 2025”.

473

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Rausch, Messrs. Mark, Keenan, Lewis, Eldridge and Cyr, Ms. Creem and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4513-1005, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$150,000 shall be expended to Reproductive Equity Now Foundation, Inc. to operate a free and confidential abortion legal hotline for Massachusetts-based health care providers and helpers, as well as patients obtaining care in Massachusetts”; and by striking out the figure “\$26,319,065” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$26,469,065”.

475

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Finegold and Tarr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2511-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to Neighbors in Need, Inc. to support the operation of a food and diaper pantry serving the cities of Haverhill, Lawrence and Methuen and the towns of Andover and North Andover”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

478

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Barrett moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4200-0200, by adding the following words:- “; provided, that the department of youth services shall expend not less than \$600,000 for the detention diversion advocacy program coordinated by the Robert F. Kennedy Children’s Action Corps, Inc. to prevent high-risk juveniles presenting before the court from penetrating further into the juvenile justice system”; and by striking out the figure “\$30,941,775” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$31,541,775”.

485

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Cronin moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 9110-9002, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$15,000 shall be expended to the town of Shirley for infrastructure upgrades for the Shirley Council on Aging”; and by striking out the figure “\$29,522,592” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$29,537,592”.

486

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Cyr, Ms. Rausch, Ms. Edwards, Messrs. Lewis and O'Connor and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4000-0005, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$500,000 shall be expended to BAGLY, Inc. to provide innovative job training and wraparound support to LGBTQ+ homeless youth”; and by striking the figure “\$12,600,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$13,100,000”. 489

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Kennedy and Mr. Moore moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4590-1503, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended to Pernet Family Health Services in the city of Worcester for its fourth trimester screening program”; and by striking out the figure “\$13,853,103” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$13,953,103”. 497

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Kennedy, Ms. Rausch and Messrs. Mark and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended in section 2, by inserting after item 4000-0007 the following item:- 502

“4000-0014 For the Edward M. Kennedy Community Health Center, Inc. to train community health workers to serve as the patient link to medical and social services for the disenfranchised population throughout the Worcester and MetroWest regions..... \$200,000”.

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Lewis and Eldridge moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4000-0300, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended to Housing Families, Inc. in the city of Malden for technological infrastructure improvements to support community based health services”; and by striking out the figure “\$150,090,882” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,190,882”. 506

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Kennedy moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4003-0122, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$140,000 shall be expended to Friendly House, Inc. for the operation of the Office for New Americans in the city of Worcester”; and by striking out the figure “\$1,305,256” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$1,445,256”. 509

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Cyr, O'Connor and Cronin and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4590-1507, by striking out the figure “\$2,550,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$3,050,000”; and by striking out the figure “\$7,200,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$7,700,000”. 512

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Kennedy and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4000-0300, by inserting after the words “June 30, 2026” the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to Marie’s Mission of the Episcopal Diocese of Western Massachusetts to support the free diaper program for the children and families in the greater Worcester area”; and by striking out the figure “\$158,090,882” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$158,115,882”. 516

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. DiDomenico and O'Connor and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4513-1112, by adding the following words:- “; 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 by striking out the figure “\$12,557,534” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- 521

“\$12,807,534”.

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Cronin and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4513-1112, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for the operation of a Mission of Mercy Free Dental Clinic, to be operated by the Massachusetts Dental Society”; and by striking out the figure “\$12,557,534” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$12,582,534”.

525

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Gómez and Oliveira moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7004-0107, by adding the following:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to North End Housing Initiative, Inc. to promote equitable access to safe, affordable housing”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

529

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Lovely and Mr. Tarr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4590-1507, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to the North Shore Alliance of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Youth, Inc. for the continuum of social, emotional and mental health support for LGBTQ+ youth on Boston's North Shore”; and by striking out the figure “\$7,200,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$7,225,000”.

532

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Friedman, Mr. Eldridge, Ms. Edwards, Mr. Fernandes, Ms. Rausch, Messrs. Payano, Collins and Velis, Ms. Creem and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4590-0250, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$500,000 shall be expended to enhance the commonwealth’s capacity to support the development of school-based bridge programs for youth who have had prolonged absence due to hospitalization for physical or mental health care”; and by striking out the figure “\$22,623,088” and in inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$23,123,088”.

533

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Rausch, Mrs. Dooner and Mr. Cronin moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4512-0205, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended and divided equally to Grit & Grace Sober Living For Women in the town of Attleboro, Jeffrey’s House in the town of Fitchburg, Evergreen House, Inc. in the town of East Wareham, and Gilly’s House, Inc. in the town of Wrentham for sober housing facility improvements and operational costs”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$200,000”.

537

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Mark moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4590-1503, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to It Takes A Village in the town of Huntington for postpartum and early parenting support for families in the western region of the commonwealth”; and by striking out the figure “\$13,853,103” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$13,878,103”.

538

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Mark moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8000-0313, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for the Southern Berkshire Volunteer Ambulance Squad, Inc. to provide out of hospital advanced life support care to communities in western Massachusetts”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

539



The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Edwards moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4512-0205, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$30,000 shall be expended to Community Against Substance Abuse, Inc. (CASA) in the city known as the town of Winthrop to support substance abuse programs”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$130,000”.

548

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Crighton moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4512-0205, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to A Healthy Lynnfield for substance use programming including, but not limited to, prevention education”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

558

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Velis and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4512-0205, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to Baystate Noble Hospital Corporation in the city of Westfield for a grant program to prevent and treat addiction to opioids and related substances”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$125,000”.

561

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Edwards moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8000-0313, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to North Suffolk Community Services, Inc. to coordinate and implement eviction sealing outreach and coordination”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$125,000”.

562

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Fernandes and Collins and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4512-0200, by striking out the words “funds shall be expended to expand transportation programs for individuals accessing substance use treatment services, prior appropriation continued” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- “; not less than \$300,000 shall be expended to increase and expand transportation programs for individuals accessing substance use treatment services, prior appropriation continued”; and by striking out the figure “\$179,642,798” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$179,942,798”.

563

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Brady moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 9110-9002, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$30,000 shall be expended for improvements for the Council on Aging in the town of Whitman”; and by striking out the figure “\$29,522,592” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$29,552,592”.

567

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Brady moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2511-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for the Charity Guild Food Pantry to continue to supply the food pantry at Brockton High School and serve the senior citizens and homebound through home delivery in the city of Brockton”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

569

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. O'Connor and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4512-0205, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to Power Forward, Inc. in the town of Marshfield for

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substance use recovery services”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Cyr and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 9110-0100, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$20,000 shall be expended to Martha’s Vineyard Community Foundation, Inc. for costs associated with transportation for older adults on Martha’s Vineyard”; and by striking out the figure “\$5,971,575” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$5,991,575”.

577

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Montigny moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4512-0205, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$150,000 shall be expended for Office-Based Addiction/Opioid Treatment, a program of the Greater New Bedford Community Health Center, to include treatment of patients with co-occurring mental health disorders by a nurse practitioner”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$250,000”.

578

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Driscoll moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4000-0020, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$75,000 shall be expended to Labouré College of Healthcare in the town of Milton for an advanced Vocational Nursing English for Speakers of Other Languages program to increase the nursing workforce recruitment pipeline in the commonwealth through increased access to nursing careers”; and by striking out the figure “\$1,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$1,075,000”.

591

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Montigny moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4512-0205, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$150,000 shall be expended as a grant to the Southcoast Health New Beginnings Moms Do Care Program in the city of New Bedford to support mothers and infants impacted by perinatal substance exposure”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$250,000”.

596

The amendment was adopted.

**As previously stated, the above amendments were considered as one and adopted. There being no objection, the following amendments were considered as one, and rejected, as follows:**

Mr. Moore moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_ the following section:-

389

“SECTION \_\_. The office of Medicaid shall conduct a review of the rates used by all governmental units in making payments to eligible providers of applied behavior analysis to publicly aided individuals as governed by 101 CMR 358.00. Said review shall include, but not be limited to: (a) a comparison of payment rates paid to providers in jurisdictions with similar cost-of-living indexes; (b) payment rates’ effect on recruitment and retention of qualified providers during fiscal years 2021, 2022 and 2023; (c) increased cost of service delivery to comply with upcoming accreditation requirements; and (d) the feasibility of implementation of a regular rate review process with fixed timelines. The office shall report the findings of the review to (i) the clerks of the House of Representatives and the Senate; (ii) the chairs of the House and Senate committees on ways and means; and (iii) the chairs of the Joint Committee on Health Care Financing not later than December 31, 2025.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Moore and Mark, Ms. Kennedy, Mr. Eldridge, Ms. Rausch and Messrs. Collins, O’Connor and Payano moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 3000-2000, by striking out the figure “\$20,000,000” and inserting in place thereof

391

the following figure:- “\$23,000,000”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Moore, Ms. Rausch, Ms. Jehlen, Messrs. Gómez, Durant, Cronin and Rush, Ms. Kennedy, Messrs. Mark, Payano, Collins, O'Connor and Fattman and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4405-2000, by striking out the words “provided further, that rates for residential care facilities and rest homes effective July 1, 2025, established in section 13D of chapter 118E of the General Laws, shall cumulatively total not less than rates effective January 1, 2025” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- “provided further, that rates for residential care facilities and rest homes effective July 1, 2025, established under section 13D of chapter 118E of the General Laws, shall cumulatively total not less than \$8,000,000 more than rates effective January 1, 2025”; and by striking out the figure “\$195,347,995” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$203,347,995”; and

400

In item 4408-1000, by striking out the words:- “provided further, that rates for residential care facilities and rest homes effective July 1, 2025, established in section 13D of chapter 118E of the General Laws, shall cumulatively total not less than rates effective January 1, 2025” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- “provided further, that rates for residential care facilities and rest homes effective July 1, 2025, established under section 13D of chapter 118E of the General Laws, shall cumulatively total not less than \$3,000,000 more than rates effective January 1, 2025”; and by striking out the figure “\$208,990,924” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$211,990,924”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Cyr, Ms. Rausch, Mr. Collins, Ms. Edwards and Messrs. Moore, O'Connor, Eldridge, Payano and Keenan moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4512-0103, by striking out the figure “\$31,848,485” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$35,000,000”.

404

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Cyr and Payano, Ms. Rausch and Messrs. Lewis, O'Connor, Eldridge and Keenan moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4510-0110, by striking out the figure “\$250,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$500,000”; and by striking the figure “\$5,335,599” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$5,585,599”.

409

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Cyr, O'Connor, Eldridge and Payano moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4000-0300, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$150,000 shall be expended for the critical care operations of New England Life Flight, Inc.”; and by striking out the figure “\$158,090,882 “ and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$158,240,882”.

410

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Durant, Eldridge, Keenan, Payano, Fernandes, O'Connor and Brady moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4120-4000, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$2,305,000 shall be expended for assistive technology services”; and by striking out the figure “\$14,327,398” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$14,712,398”.

423

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Eldridge, Mark, Cronin, Moore, Keenan, Fernandes, Collins, O'Connor, Brady and Payano, Ms. Lovely and Mr. Montigny moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 5920-2025, by striking out the figure “\$287,388,656” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$288,021,407”.

424

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Keenan, Lewis, Gómez, O'Connor, Eldridge and Oliveira moved that the

435

proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_\_\_ the following sections:-

“SECTION \_\_\_\_ . Section 1 of chapter 175 of the General Laws, as amended by chapter 177 of the acts of 2022, is hereby amended by inserting after the definition of ‘Domestic company’ the following definition:-

‘Emergency services programs’, all programs subject to contract between the Massachusetts Behavioral Health Partnership and provider organizations for the provision of acute care hospital and community-based emergency behavioral health services, including, but not limited to, behavioral health crisis assessment, intervention and stabilization services 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, through: (i) mobile crisis intervention services for youth; (ii) mobile crisis intervention services for adults; (iii) emergency service provider community-based locations; (iv) emergency departments of acute care hospitals or satellite emergency facilities; (v) adult community crisis stabilization services; and (vi) youth community crisis stabilization services.

SECTION \_\_\_\_ . Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the division of insurance, in consultation with the division of medical assistance, shall promulgate regulations or issue sub-regulatory guidance, within 30 days of the effective date of this act, to require carriers reimburse acute care hospitals with emergency departments or satellite emergency facilities for the provision of emergency behavioral health services, including but not limited to, behavioral health crisis assessment, intervention, and stabilization services. The regulations or sub-regulatory guidance shall include reimbursement for the provision of emergency behavioral services via telemedicine, electronic or telephonic consultation, in accordance with section 51 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> of chapter 111 of the General Laws. The contractual rate for these services may be no less than the prevailing MassHealth rate for behavioral health emergency department crisis evaluations. This does not preclude a hospital from billing for other medically necessary services traditionally reimbursed through an emergency department visit and is also in addition to required reimbursement by carriers for each day a member waits in an emergency department, observation unit or inpatient floor for placement in an appropriate inpatient psychiatric placement, as required by section 78 of chapter 177 of the acts of 2022. The insurer shall reimburse other medically necessary services and for patients awaiting an inpatient psychiatric placement in addition to payment for emergency behavioral health services. Behavioral health services provided in this setting under this section shall be deemed medically necessary and shall not require prior authorization by an insurer.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Rush, Collins, Velis, Gómez, Keenan and Crighton, Ms. Edwards and Mr. Payano moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4512-0205, by inserting after the word “services” the following:- “; provided further that not less than \$175,000 be expended to Self Esteem Boston for direct service and provider training programs”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$275,000”.

442

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Rush and Durant, Ms. Creem, Messrs. Velis, Oliveira and Brady, Ms. Kennedy, Mr. Moore, Ms. Miranda, Messrs. Montigny, Gómez, Fattman, Collins and Lewis, Ms. Rausch, Messrs. Eldridge, Keenan, Payano, Driscoll, Fernandes, O'Connor and Tarr and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4590-0925, by striking the figure “\$625,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$1,250,000”.

443

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Rush moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4003-0122, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, not less than \$10,000 shall be expended for the Casserly House located in the Roslindale section of the city of Boston to

446

assist with the transition of immigrants and refugees into the community”; and by striking out the figure “\$1,305,256” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$1,315,256”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Cyr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 5042-5000, by adding the following wording:- “; provided further, that the department shall expend not less than \$1,500,000 to develop a pilot program to provide access to an electronic multicomponent behavioral health prevention tool that includes access to online behavioral health educational resources, peer-to-peer support services, including a pre-moderated online peer chat space, and online private counseling sessions with a Massachusetts licensed behavioral health professional”; and by striking out the figure “\$131,563,724” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$133,063,724”.

471

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Cyr and Lewis, Ms. Rausch, Ms. Jehlen, Messrs. Montigny, Collins, Fernandes, Eldridge and Keenan, Ms. Edwards and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 9110-1900, by striking out the figure “\$12,657,217” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$14,000,000”.

477

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Finegold, Brady, Gómez, Durant, Moore, Fattman and Keenan, Mrs. Dooner, Messrs. Driscoll, Payano, Kennedy, Eldridge and O'Connor and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4000-0641, by striking out the figure “\$102,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$132,000,000”; and by striking out the figure “\$625,073,456” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$655,073,456”.

479

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Finegold, Lewis, Gómez and Moore, Ms. Miranda, Messrs. Keenan and Payano, Ms. Rausch, Mr. Collins, Ms. Kennedy and Mr. Cyr moved that the proposed new text be amended in section 84, by striking out the words “may transfer up to \$15,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- “shall transfer not less than \$230,000,000”.

482

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Cronin and Durant moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4000-0300, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$3,000,000 shall be expended for Heywood Hospital in the city of Gardner to support operations”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$3,100,000”.

483

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Rush and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4512-0205, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for RICKY, Inc. in the town of Norwood for the delivery of substance use recovery care materials to homeless individuals with substance use and mental health disorders within the Greater Boston region”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

484

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Barrett and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4800-0038, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$500,000 shall be expended to the Jewish Family and Children’s Service, Inc.’s Center for Early Relationship Support, including the Fragile Beginnings program, the Project Newborns Exposed to Substances: Support and Therapy and related clinical and community services for vulnerable families with children from birth to age 5, inclusive”; and by striking out the figure “\$347,707,804” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:-

488



“\$348,207,804”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Jehlen, Messrs. Mark, Gómez and Moore, Ms. Kennedy and Messrs. Eldridge, Keenan, Fernandes, Collins, O'Connor, Brady and Payano moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 5920-5000, by striking out the figure “\$110,653,565” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$117,353,565”.

499

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Kennedy and Mr. Cyr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 9110-9002, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$60,000 shall be allocated to the Multicultural AIDS Coalition, Inc for the operation of a statewide Virtual Senior Center for LGBTQIA+ older adults”; and by striking out the figure “\$29,522,592” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$29,582,692”.

500

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Kennedy and Messrs. Gómez, Cronin, Rush, Keenan, Tarr, Payano, Collins, Eldridge, Brady, O'Connor and Montigny moved that the proposed new text be amended in Section 2, by inserting after line-item 4400-1025 the following item:-

501

“4400-1031 For reimbursement to clients who have had their federal supplemental nutrition assistance program or summer electronic benefits for children program payments stolen through electronic benefit transfer card skimming, card cloning and other similar fraudulent methods, including organized identity theft schemes.....\$10,000,000”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Kennedy, Mr. Mark, Ms. Rausch and Messrs. Cronin, Moore, Eldridge, Keenan, Payano, Fernandes, Collins, Brady and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 1599-6903, by inserting after the words “defined by the executive office” the following words:- “; and provided further, that in no instance shall a rate implementation be established utilizing a lower percentile of the wage estimate for each position utilized for the previous two-year rate as determined by the most recently available Bureau of Labor Statistics state-specific data for Massachusetts”.

505

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Cyr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4510-0710, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$250,000 shall be expended for the operation and administration of Physician Health Services, Inc. to support the health, well-being and recovery of physicians and medical students”; and by striking out the figure “\$17,000,545” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$17,500,545”; and by inserting after section 8 the following section:-

507

“SECTION X. Chapter 10 of the General Laws shall be amended by inserting after section 35M the following section:-

Section 35M ½. There shall be established upon the books of the commonwealth a separate fund to be known as the Medical Peer Support Trust Fund to be used, without prior appropriation, by the physician health program authorized as a diversionary program by the board of registration in medicine pursuant to section 5F of chapter 112 of the general laws and 243 CMR 2.07(23)(b). The Medical Peer Support Trust Fund shall be financed by a surcharge of \$50 on each license renewal or issuance of a new license to be collected by the board of registration in medicine for every physician licensed under section 2 of chapter 112 of the general laws in addition to other license fees. All monies deposited into said fund shall be expended exclusively by the authorized physician health program for its operations and administration and shall not be subject to appropriation by the general court.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. O'Connor, Ms. Rausch and Messrs. Tarr and Oliveira moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_\_\_ the following sectionS:-

511

“SECTION XX. (a) There is hereby established and set up on the books of the commonwealth a Pediatric Cancer Research and Resource Project Trust Fund for the purpose of providing grants for pediatric cancer research projects and pediatric cancer resource projects in the commonwealth.

(b) The fund shall be credited with: (i) appropriations or other money authorized or transferred by the general court and specifically designated to be credited to the fund; (ii) funds from public and private sources, including, but not limited to gifts, grants and donations; and (iii) any interest earned on such money.

(c) Subject to appropriation, amounts credited to the fund shall be used for grants for pediatric cancer research and pediatric cancer resource projects in the commonwealth. Money remaining in the fund at the end of a fiscal year shall not revert to the General Fund.

(d) As used in this section, the following words shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

‘Pediatric cancer research project’, a scientific research project focusing on the causes, prevention, education, screening, treatment or cure of pediatric cancer, or the symptoms or effects experienced by patients following completion of a course of treatment for pediatric cancer, and may include basic, clinical and epidemiologic research.

‘Pediatric cancer resource project’, a community-based educational, informational, awareness and financial resource project that improves the lives of individuals afflicted by pediatric cancer through an enhanced understanding of the diagnosis, treatment and long-term impacts of childhood cancer and provides support to reduce its emotional, educational and financial burden.

SECTION XX. The executive office of health and human services shall establish a permanent advisory committee to award and allocate grants for pediatric cancer research and pediatric cancer resource projects in the commonwealth. The advisory committee’s membership shall consist of 7 members appointed by the secretary of health and human services 2 of whom shall be survivors of pediatric cancer or caregivers to individuals with pediatric cancer, 1 of whom shall be a representative of a nationwide childhood cancer advocacy non-profit and 4 of whom shall be professionals from the childhood cancer field.

Not later than August 1, the executive office of health and human services shall submit an annual report to the House and Senate Committees on Ways and Means, Joint Committee on Public Health, And Joint Committee on Healthcare Finance detailing the number, amounts and recipients of the grants awarded pursuant to section XX of chapter 29 of the General Laws, the resulting research and other relevant information as requested by the special committee.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Cronin, Collins and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4512-0200, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$5,000,000 shall be expended to provide technical assistance and training to the service systems of medication management, medication-assisted treatment and treatment of co-occurring disorders”; and by striking out the figure “\$179,642,798” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$184,642,798”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. DiDomenico moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4512-0205, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$150,000 shall be expended for continued capital improvements to the Cambridge community center and for the expansion of their community-based behavioral health program”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “250,000”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. DiDomenico and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 1410-0012, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not

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less than \$250,000 shall be expended to BRAVE for Veterans, Incorporated to support research programs benefiting veterans in the Commonwealth”; and by striking out the figure “\$9,678,473” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$9,928,473”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. DiDomenico and Lewis, Ms. Rausch, Messrs. Gómez, Mark, Rush, Cronin and Moore, Ms. Kennedy, Mr. Eldridge, Ms. Miranda, Messrs. Keenan, Payano, Brady, Fernandes and Collins, Ms. Jehlen, Mr. Cyr, Ms. Lovely and Mr. Montigny moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4403-2000, by striking out the following words:- “fiscal year 2025” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- “the month of April 2025, plus an additional ten per cent beginning in the month of January 2026 above the standard in effect in the month of April 2025”; and by striking out the figure “\$466,729,423” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$486,929,423”; and

522

In section 2, in item 4408-1000, by striking the following words:- “fiscal year 2025” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- “the month of April 2025, plus an additional ten per cent beginning in the month of January 2026 above the standard in effect in the month of April 2025”; and by striking out the figure “\$208,990,924” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$219,190,924”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Lovely, Messrs. Montigny and Eldridge, Ms. Edwards, Mr. Driscoll, Ms. Jehlen and Messrs. Fernandes, Mark, O'Connor, Payano and Keenan moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4000-0601, by inserting after the words “level shall be not less than,” the following words:- “\$113.42 per month”; by striking out the words “the level established in fiscal year 2025,” and by striking out the figure “\$5,109,838,566,” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$5,120,838,566”.

530

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Lovely, Ms. Rausch, Mr. Crighton, Ms. Miranda, Ms. Kennedy, Messrs. Collins, Gómez, Rush, Lewis, Moore and Mark, Ms. Edwards and Messrs. Payano, Fernandes, Eldridge, Tarr and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4590-1503, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$300,000 shall be expended for the Neighborhood Birth Center in the cities of Boston and the North Shore to provide perinatal health care and prenatal and postpartum support to birthing people”; and by striking out the figure “\$13,853,103” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$14,153,103”.

535

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Miranda, Ms. Edwards and Mr. Collins moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 5042-5000, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$500,000 shall be expended to Children Services of Roxbury to expand statewide youth mental health and family stabilization services and prevent out-of-home placements, mental health hospitalization, and DCF involvement”; and by striking out the figure “\$131,563,724” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$132,063,724”.

540

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Mark moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 9110-9002, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for the West County Senior Services District of the towns of Ashfield, Buckland, and Shelburne and the western Franklin County region for increased costs relative to the transition from the “Consortium” to the “District” pursuant to chapter 402 of the Acts of 2022”; and by striking out the figure “\$29,522,592” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$29,622,592”.

542

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item

545

4510-0710, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$1,000,000 shall be expended to South Shore Health to support its efforts to advance health equity and improve access for underserved communities”; and by striking out the figure “\$17,000,545” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$18,000,545”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. DiDomenico and Lewis moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4003-0111, by striking out item 4003-0111, and inserting in place thereof the following item:-

“4003-0111 For the operation of the office for refugees and immigrants.....\$1,514,573”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4000-0300, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$2,000,000 shall be expended to South Shore Health to support its efforts to expand capacity for emergency department services”; and by striking out the figure “\$158,090,882” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$160,090,882”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Velis and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4512-0204, by striking out the figure “\$1,298,718” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$2,298,718”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Velis and O'Connor and Ms. Edwards moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4513-1026, by striking out the figure “\$14,304,687” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$14,549,687”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Velis and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4590-0250, by striking out the figure “\$22,623,088” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$26,116,196”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4510-0020, by striking out, in line 1, the words “may expend” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- “shall expend”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended in section 2, by striking out the line item 4510-0615 in its entirety.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mrs. Dooner and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4513-1026, by striking out the figure “\$14,304,687” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$14,504,687”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Driscoll and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4513-1026, by striking out the figure “\$14,304,687” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$14,549,687”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Driscoll and Tarr moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section 90 the following section:-

“SECTION XX. The Executive of Health and Human Services shall conduct a study to determine the feasibility and potential benefit to the commonwealth of transferring the administration of pharmacy benefits from MassHealth managed care providers to the MassHealth fee-for-service pharmacy program or through the selection of a single claims processor for the pharmacy benefits provided by managed care providers. The analysis shall

determine the amount of savings that would be realized by the Commonwealth due to the use of the Medicaid drug price reimbursement formula, an increase in the receipt of prescription drug rebates and other program efficiencies that could result from the single administration of the pharmacy benefit for MassHealth recipients. The report shall analyze the savings from those states that have moved the administration of the pharmacy benefits from the Medicaid managed care organizations back into their Medicaid fee-for-service pharmacy program or have selected a single claims process administrator and shall also consider the total savings from converting to NADAC price for the cost of drugs and MassHealth's professional dispensing fee. The Secretary shall transmit the report to the chairs of the House and Senate Committees on Ways and Means and the chairs of the Joint Committee on Health Care Financing not later than October 1, 2025."

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Driscoll and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4510-0110, by inserting after the word "manners" the following words:-  
"; provided further, that not less than \$40,000 shall be expended to Manet Community Health Center for Behavioral Health treatment support"; and by striking out the figure "\$5,335,599" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$5,375,599".

587

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Driscoll moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section 90 the following sections:-

588

"SECTION XX. Section 24N of Chapter 111 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out paragraph (c) in its entirety and inserting in place thereof the following paragraph:-

(c) There shall be a vaccine program advisory council consisting of the commissioner of public health or a designee, who shall serve as chair; the medical director of the universal immunization program of the department of public health established under section 24I; the executive director for the center for health information and analysis or a designee; the executive director of the commonwealth health insurance connector authority or a designee; 1 person to be appointed by the director of Medicaid, who shall be a representative of managed care organizations contracting with MassHealth; 3 persons to be appointed by the commissioner of insurance, each of whom shall be a representative of 1 of the 3 health insurance companies having the most insured lives in the commonwealth; and 7 persons to be appointed by the commissioner of public health, 1 of whom shall be a representative of an employer that self-insures for health coverage who shall be appointed from lists of nominees submitted by statewide associations of employers, 1 of whom shall be a member of the Massachusetts Medical Society, 1 of whom shall be a member of the Massachusetts chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, 1 of whom shall be a member of the Massachusetts Academy of Family Physicians, and 3 of whom shall be physicians licensed to practice in the commonwealth and who shall have expertise in the area of childhood vaccines. The council shall recommend the amount of funding needed each fiscal year by calculating the total non-federal program cost.

SECTION XX. Section 24N of Chapter 111 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out paragraph (d) in its entirety and inserting in place thereof the following paragraph:-

(d) Under regulations adopted by the commissioner of public health, each surcharge payor in the commonwealth shall pay to the commissioner of public health, for deposit in the Vaccine Purchase Trust Fund, a routine childhood immunizations surcharge assessed by the commissioner. By January 1 of each year, the commissioner of public health shall determine the total amount of the surcharge for the current fiscal year by determining the final amount required to be included in the Vaccine Purchase Trust Fund for the current fiscal year to cover the estimated costs to purchase, store and distribute immunizations for



routine childhood immunizations and to administer the fund and the immunization registry, established pursuant to section 24M. The amount shall take into consideration the limitations on expenditures described in subsection (b) any anticipated surplus or deficit in the trust fund, and shall exclude any costs anticipated to be covered by federal contribution. Any increase in the surcharge amount for the prior fiscal year shall not be more than the percentage set as the health care cost growth benchmark, established under section 9 of chapter 6D, unless the commissioner of public health submits a detailed report to the clerks of the house of representatives and senate who shall forward the report to the house and senate committees on ways and means, the house and senate chairs of the joint committee on public health and the house and senate chairs of the joint committee on health care financing explaining the need for the increase.

SECTION XX. Chapter 111 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by inserting after section 244 the following section:-

Section 245. (1) The department shall implement a provider immunization brand choice requirement as part of the Commonwealth's universal immunization program pursuant to sections 24I and 24N of chapter 111; the vaccines for children program operated by the department under the authority of 42 U.S.C. §1396s; and in any other existing or future immunization program for children or adults administered through the state using local, state or federal funds.

(2) Pursuant to the provider immunization brand choice requirement, for all categories of immunizations included in the programs described in paragraph (1) of this section, all healthcare providers participating in these programs must be able to select any brand or type of any immunization (including any combination immunization and dosage form), as long as the immunization is licensed or authorized for emergency use by the federal Food and Drug Administration and recommended by the national Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices. The department may not limit the ability of such healthcare providers to provide an immunization by limiting the supply of immunizations purchased by the department This section shall not apply in the event of a shortage or delay in vaccine availability, disaster or public health emergency, terrorist attack, hostile military or paramilitary action, or extraordinary law enforcement emergency.

Use of Vaccine Lists. The department shall use, for the purpose of the purchase, delivery and administration of vaccines, the CDC vaccine list established (and periodically reviewed and, as appropriate, revised) by the Advisory Committee of Immunization Practices, an advisory committee established by the US Secretary of Health and Human services acting through the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

(3) The department shall implement all or part of the provider immunization brand choice requirement as soon as it is determined to be feasible, provided, however, that the department shall complete full implementation of the system not later than July 1, 2025."

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Driscoll and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after item 4800-1100 the following item:-

"xxxx-xxxx For the Make-A-Wish Foundation Massachusetts and Rhode Island, Inc..... \$250,000".

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Oliveira moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 9110-1660, by adding the following words:- " ; provided further, that not less than \$1,762,000 shall be expended for providers of naturally occurring retirement communities with whom the executive office of aging and independence entered into service agreements in fiscal year 2025 and shall maintain at proportions of total available funding equal to those provided in fiscal year 2025"; and by striking the figure "\$2,464,695" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$4,226,695".

590

593

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Fattman and Tarr, Mrs. Dooner and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_ the following section:-

595

“SECTION X. Section 110A of chapter 111 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting, in line 3, after the word ‘cretinism’ the following words:- ‘, krabbe, fabry, gaucher, pompe, MPS I, niemann pick A/B [disease]’.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Fattman and Tarr and Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_ the following sections:-

598

“SECTION X. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, any emergency medical technician, as defined by section 1 of chapter 111C of the General Laws, who has been (i) awarded a paramedic certification from the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians, (ii) awarded an EMT-Paramedic certificate as administered by the department of public health, (iii) completed no less than 9,000 hours of paramedic field work for any licensed ambulance service in the commonwealth after receiving said certificates, and has (iv) completed a National Council Licensure Exam (NCLEX) approved preparation course, shall not be required to graduate from a Board of Registration in Nursing approved nursing program in the commonwealth to participate in the NCLEX-RN.

SECTION X. Any emergency medical technician, as defined in section 1 of chapter 111C of the General Laws, who has been (i) awarded an associate of science, bachelor of science, or master of science in emergency medical services at an accredited college or university, (ii) awarded a paramedic certification from the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians, (iii) awarded an EMT-Paramedic certificate as administered by the department of public health, (iv) completed no less than 5,000 hours of paramedic field work for any licensed ambulance service in the commonwealth after receiving said certificates, and has (v) completed a National Council Licensure Exam (NCLEX) approved preparation course, shall not be required to graduate from a Board of Registration in Nursing approved nursing program in the commonwealth to participate in the NCLEX-RN.

SECTION X. Any emergency medical technician paramedic shall be required to provide specific documentation for Good Moral Character (GMC) evaluation as defined in sections 74, 74A, and 76 of chapter 112 of the General Laws to be licensed as a registered nurse in the commonwealth.

SECTION X. The department of public health shall develop regulations and guidelines within 180 days of the passage of this act.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Driscoll and Cyr and Ms. Rausch moved that the proposed new text be amended moves to amend the bill by inserting after section 90 the following section:-

599

“SECTION XX. Subsection (c) of section 24N of chapter 111 of the General Laws, as amended by section 111 of chapter 140 of the acts of 2024, is hereby amended by striking out the figure ‘7’ and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- ‘9’.

Said subsection (c) of said section 24N of chapter 111 of the General Laws, as so amended, is hereby amended by inserting after the word, ‘Physicians’, the first time it appears, the following words:- ‘2 of whom shall both be physicians licensed to practice in the commonwealth and have expertise in the area of adult vaccines’.

Said section 24N of said chapter 111 of the General Laws, as so amended, is hereby further amended by striking out after the words ‘vaccines. The council’; and inserting in place thereof the following words:- ‘vaccines. The commissioner’.

Said subsection (c) of said section 24N of said chapter 111 of the General Laws, as so amended, is hereby further amended by striking out the word ‘childhood’, the second and

third time it appears.

Said subsection (c) of said section 24N of said chapter 111 of the General Laws, as so amended, is hereby further amended by inserting after the word, 'account,' the following words:- 'immunizations routinely recommended by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices,'.

Said chapter 111 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 24N the following section:-

Section 24N 1/2. (a) As used in this section the following words shall, unless the context clearly requires otherwise, have the following meanings:-

'Adult', individuals who are at least 19 years of age and younger than 65 years of age.

'Estimated vaccine cost', the estimated cost over the course of a fiscal year for the purchase, storage and distribution of vaccines for all adults in the commonwealth.

'MassHealth', the medical assistance and benefit programs administered by the MassHealth agency pursuant to Title XIX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. § 1396a et seq.), Title XXI of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. § 1397aa et seq.), M.G.L. c. 118E, and other applicable laws and waivers to provide and pay for medical services to eligible members.

'Routine adult immunizations', immunizations for adults as defined in this section which shall include but need not be limited to immunizations that protect against respiratory diseases such as SARS-CoV-2, influenza and Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) in addition to other immunizations recommended by the vaccine program advisory council and approved by the commissioner.

'Total non-federal program cost', the estimated annual cost of vaccines needed for routine adult immunizations for adults in the commonwealth less the amount of federal revenue available to the commonwealth for purchase, storage, distribution and administration of the vaccines.

(b) There shall be established in the commonwealth a separate, non-budgeted special revenue fund known as the Adult Vaccine Purchase Fund, which shall be administered by the commissioner of public health or a designee. Amounts credited to the fund shall be expended, without further appropriation, to support a vaccine purchase system for routine adult immunizations as defined in this section.

The fund shall be credited with: (i) all appropriations directed to the fund; (ii) all monies transferred from the executive office of health and human services pursuant to section 66 of chapter 118E; (iii) any voluntary contributions to the fund including, but not limited to, contributions from MassHealth, third-party payers or third-party administrators, as defined in section 1 of chapter 12C; and (iv) any interest earnings on such monies. Amounts credited to the fund shall be expended, without further appropriation, to cover the costs to purchase, store and distribute vaccines for routine adult immunizations and to support a vaccine clinic management platform.

Funds shall be expended solely to cover total non-federal program costs; provided, however, that the amount to be expended for storing and distributing vaccines for routine adult immunizations, if such costs are not covered by federal contributions, and for the costs of supporting a vaccine clinic management platform and programs to promote equitable access to vaccine, shall not exceed 10 per cent of the total amount of the fund expended for the purchase of vaccines needed for routine adult immunizations.

The department may incur expenses, and the comptroller may certify for payment, amounts in anticipation of the most recent estimate of expected receipts, as certified by the secretary of administration and finance; provided, however, that no expenditure shall be made from the fund which shall cause the fund to be in deficit at the close of a fiscal year. Any balance in the fund at the close of a fiscal year shall be available for expenditure in subsequent fiscal years and shall not be transferred to any other fund or revert to the General

Fund.

The commissioner of public health or a designee shall annually report the amount of funds collected and any expenditures made from the fund to the clerks of the house of representatives and senate and to the house and senate committees on ways and means, the house and senate chairs of the joint committee on public health and the house and senate chairs of the joint committee on health care financing.

(c) The vaccine program advisory council established in section 24N shall recommend the vaccines to be included in the program and the commissioner shall calculate the amount needed in the fund each fiscal year for routine adult immunizations by calculating the total non-federal program cost. The council shall make recommendations to the commissioner on whether the commissioner may authorize provider choice of more than 1 comparable brand or type for a routine adult immunization vaccine. In its recommendations, the council shall examine the feasibility, costs and benefits of authorizing provider choice, provide a schedule of the cost of each comparable brand or type of a vaccine recommended for provider choice and demonstrate that the estimated vaccine cost of authorizing provider choice would not be substantially greater than the estimated vaccine cost of purchasing a single brand or type of a vaccine. The commissioner of public health shall determine the final vaccines to be purchased.

(d) To the extent health care providers as defined by section 1 who are otherwise legally authorized to administer vaccines and pharmacies licensed in accordance with section 39 of chapter 112 are otherwise administering vaccines, said health care providers and licensed pharmacies shall accept and shall administer vaccines funded by the Adult Vaccine Purchase Fund. Nothing in this section shall prohibit the department from allowing other providers legally authorized to administer vaccines from requesting to obtain and use vaccines funded by said trust.

(e) The department may adopt rules and regulations as necessary to implement the universal purchase and distribution system under this section and other applicable state and federal laws.

Subsection (a) of section 24N 1/2 of chapter 111 of the General Laws, as inserted by section 62, is hereby amended by striking out the words ‘individuals who are at least 19 years of age and younger than 65 years of age’ and inserting in place thereof the following words:- ‘individuals who are 19 years of age and older’.

Section 64 of chapter 118E, as most recently amended by section 122 of chapter 140 of the acts of 2024, is hereby amended by striking out the definition ‘Immunization revenue amount’ and inserting in place thereof the following definition:-

‘Immunization revenue amount’, the estimated costs (i) to purchase, store and distribute vaccines for routine childhood immunizations and administer the Vaccine Purchase Fund, established in section 24N of chapter 111, (ii) to purchase, store and distribute vaccines for routine adult vaccinations and administer the Adult Vaccine Purchase Trust Fund established in section 24N 1/2 of chapter 111, (iii) to administer the computerized immunization registry, established in section 24M of chapter 111 and (iv) that take into consideration the limitations on expenditures described in subsection (b) of section 24N and subsection (b) of section 24N 1/2 of chapter 111, as well as any anticipated surplus or deficit in said Vaccine Purchase Fund and said Adult Vaccine Purchase Trust Fund, but excluding any costs anticipated to be covered by federal contribution.

Section 66 of said chapter 118E, as most recently amended by section 126 of chapter 140 of the acts of 2024, is hereby amended by inserting after the words ‘chapter 111’ the following words:- ‘and the Adult Vaccine Purchase Trust Fund established in section 24N 1/2 of chapter 111, as applicable, as determined by the executive office of health and human services in consultation with the department of public health each year’.

Said section 66 of said chapter 118E, as most recently amended by section 127 of

chapter 140 of the acts of 2024, is hereby amended by inserting after the words ‘chapter 111’ the following words:- ‘and the Adult Vaccine Purchase Trust Fund established in section 24N 1/2 of chapter 111, as applicable, as determined by the executive office of health and human services in consultation with the department of public health each year’.

Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the secretary of health and human services shall seek all required federal approvals that the secretary deems necessary to implement sections 57 to 63, inclusive, 75 to 77, inclusive, including any required waivers under 42 CFR § 433.68 necessary to implement changes to the managed care organization services assessment described in section 68 of chapter 118E of the General Laws. Sections 57 to 62, inclusive, 75 and 76 shall not become effective until the later of the effective date of this act or the first full calendar month following the calendar month in which the secretary determines that all such federal approvals have been received. Section 77 shall not become effective until the later of the October 1, 2027, or the first full calendar month following the calendar month in which the secretary determines that all such federal approvals have been received.

Section 63 shall take effect the first full calendar month following the calendar month in which the secretary determines both that voluntary federal contributions covering adults age 65 and over are available to state adult vaccine funds such as the Adult Vaccine Purchase Fund and that all federal approvals necessary under section 121 have been received.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

**As previously stated, the above amendments were considered as one and rejected.**

Mr. Barrett moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_\_ the following section:-

175

“SECTION XX. Item 7008-1116 of section 2 of chapter 140 of the acts of 2024 is hereby amended by inserting after the words ‘Massachusetts correctional institution in Concord’ the following words:- ‘and such funds shall be made available until June 30, 2026.’.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Collins and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4000-0300, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to The Boston Home, Inc. for their wheelchair enhancement center to support the costs of on-site repairs, modifications, and programming for power wheelchairs”; and by striking out the figure “\$158,090,882” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$158,140,882”.

451

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Mr. Collins moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4510-0110, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be provided for a nurse practitioner education and training program at the South Boston Community Health Center as part of their status as a federally approved teaching health center”; and by striking out the figure “\$5,335,599” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$5,435,599”.

452

After remarks, the question on adoption of the amendment was determined by a call of the yeas and nays at seven minutes before two o'clock P.M., on motion of Mr. Collins, as follows, to wit (yeas 39 – nays 0) **[Yeas and Nays No. 28]:**

**YEAS.**

Barrett, Michael J.  
Brady, Michael D.  
Brownsberger, William N.  
Collins, Nick  
Comerford, Joanne M.

Gómez, Adam  
Jehlen, Patricia D.  
Keenan, John F.  
Kennedy, Edward J.  
Kennedy, Robyn K.



Creem, Cynthia Stone  
Crighton, Brendan P.  
Cronin, John J.  
Cyr, Julian  
DiDomenico, Sal N.  
Dooner, Kelly A.  
Driscoll, Jr., William J.  
Durant, Peter J.  
Edwards, Lydia  
Eldridge, James B.  
Fattman, Ryan C.  
Feeney, Paul R.  
Fernandes, Dylan A.  
Finegold, Barry R.  
Friedman, Cindy F.

Lewis, Jason M.  
Lovely, Joan B.  
Mark, Paul W.  
Miranda, Liz  
Montigny, Mark C.  
Moore, Michael O.  
O'Connor, Patrick M.  
Oliveira, Jacob R.  
Payano, Pavel  
Rausch, Rebecca L.  
Rodrigues, Michael J.  
Rush, Michael F.  
Tarr, Bruce E.  
Velis, John C. – 39.

**NAYS – 0.**

The yeas and nays having been completed at two o'clock P.M., the amendment was adopted.

*Remarks of Senator Nick Collins.*

Thank you Mr. President. With us today is Colonel Tim Murphy. Colonel Murphy was born and raised in South Boston, Massachusetts, and currently resides there with his wife, Leah, and three kids, Thomas, Molly, and Maddie. Tim is a 2002 United States Military Academy graduate, where he played hockey and served as the team captain during his senior year. He was commissioned as a Field Artillery Officer and served six years on active duty at Fort Hood, Texas with the 1st Cavalry Division.

He served two tours (27 months) deployed to Iraq (Baghdad, Baqubah) as a rifle platoon leader and BN Battle Captain/A/S3. He transitioned to the Massachusetts Army National Guard in 2008 and served as the 1-101 FA Rear-D CDR, 1-101 FA Training Officer, 51st TC S4, APMS at Boston University, 1-101 FA XO/AO, J3 for the COVID response and the RRB CDR since August 16, 2020.

In his free time, Colonel Murphy serves on numerous local boards in his neighborhood, coaches various sports teams, including a high school hockey team and volunteers with many veterans.

**On motion of Mr. Velis, under the provisions of Senate Rule 6A, the remarks were printed in the Journal of the Senate.**

*Orders of the Day.*

The Orders of the Day were further considered as follows:

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. 4001),-- was further considered, the main question being on ordering the bill to a third reading.

Messrs. Fernandes, Payano, Collins, Mark, Rush, Driscoll and Moore, Ms. Rausch, Messrs. Keenan, O'Connor and Cyr and Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 5095-0015, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$4,800,000 shall be expended to Cape Cod and Islands Mental Health Center, also known as Pocasset Mental Health Center, for mental health services and operations”; and

Remarks of Senator  
Nick Collins.

General  
Appropriations Bill.

543

In said section 2, in item 4590-0915, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$31,000,000 shall be expended for the continued operation of Pappas Rehabilitation Hospital for Children”.

*Remarks of Senator Dylan A. Fernandes.*

Good Afternoon. I rise to speak on an amendment important to this state, my district, and me personally.

But before I do, I want to thank the people in the Plymouth and Barnstable Senate district - the residents of Plymouth, Pembroke, Plympton, Kingston, Falmouth, Mashpee, Bourne and Sandwich for allowing me to work on their behalf.

It is the honor of a lifetime to represent my hometown Senate district. My great grandparents came to our district from the Azores and settled as humble and hardworking farm hands in the local strawberry fields.

And so serving in the Senate as the Chair of the Agriculture Committee is a privilege that takes me back to my roots and the historical importance of our Plymouth and Cape community. Thank you Madam President for the appointment.

In my first month on job, I learned that the Department of Mental Health planned to close the Cape and Islands Mental Health Center, which is the only state inpatient mental health facility in our district and the close the Pappas Rehabilitation Hospital for Children, right outside our district without any concrete plans to expand beds elsewhere in our region.

We need mental health resources, the Cape and Islands region has one of the highest suicide rates in the state, 50% higher than the state average. In Plymouth County, we continue to see incidents of suicide above state averages and people struggling with substance use disorders.

Children in our region and across the Commonwealth are reporting high levels of anxiety and depression, with families struggling to find services, and school nurses reporting an increase in behavioral health issues.

The geographic isolation of our communities can have a compounding effect - causing social isolation and also an isolation from needed care.

And when adults and children are struggling, they go to see the incredible team of providers at Pappas or Pocasset.

We heard from patients who told us that the nurses, caseworkers, and care teams in these facilities brought them out of darkness, that they saved their lives.

So with the Senator from Bristol and Norfolk and the Senator from the Cape and Islands, we rallied the community to protect mental health in our region.

Patients, workers, families, neighbors, we spoke out, we petitioned, and we were heard. We are fortunate to have a Governor who listens, understands the mental health challenges in our region, and paused the closure.

But the work is not done. And this Senate is a national leader in supporting mental health.

It is through the leadership here that we are taking up my amendment directing \$4.8 million to fully fund the Cape Cod & Islands Community Mental Health Center at Pocasset and \$31 million to the Pappas Rehabilitation Hospital for Children.

Budgets represent the clearest statement of our values. And this amendment is about more than numbers.

It's about protecting health care access for underserved communities.

It's about standing by our children with disabilities

It's about ensuring that no one is left behind because of where they live or how much they earn.

The human mind is the most powerful thing on the planet. It brought us democracy, it

Remarks of Senator  
Dylan A.  
Fernandes.

split the atom, it unlocks the secrets of the universe. But its power can also be a profoundly negative force that can spiral people to destruction, if they do not get the help they need.

At some point, most of us will need that extra support. And this amendment ensures that children and adults of Southeastern Massachusetts will have the resources to live happier and healthier lives.

Thank you, Madam President.

**On motion of Ms. Rausch, under the provisions of Senate Rule 6A, the remarks were printed in the Journal of the Senate.**

After remarks, the question on adoption of the amendment was determined by a call of the yeas and nays at twenty-eight minutes past two o'clock P.M., on motion of Mr. Fernandes, as follows, to wit (yeas 39 – nays 0) [**Yeas and Nays No. 29**]:

**YEAS.**

Barrett, Michael J.	Gómez, Adam
Brady, Michael D.	Jehlen, Patricia D.
Brownsberger, William N.	Keenan, John F.
Collins, Nick	Kennedy, Edward J.
Comerford, Joanne M.	Kennedy, Robyn K.
Creem, Cynthia Stone	Lewis, Jason M.
Crighton, Brendan P.	Lovely, Joan B.
Cronin, John J.	Mark, Paul W.
Cyr, Julian	Miranda, Liz
DiDomenico, Sal N.	Montigny, Mark C.
Dooner, Kelly A.	Moore, Michael O.
Driscoll, Jr., William J.	O'Connor, Patrick M.
Durant, Peter J.	Oliveira, Jacob R.
Edwards, Lydia	Payano, Pavel
Eldridge, James B.	Rausch, Rebecca L.
Fattman, Ryan C.	Rodrigues, Michael J.
Feeney, Paul R.	Rush, Michael F.
Fernandes, Dylan A.	Tarr, Bruce E.
Finegold, Barry R.	Velis, John C. – <b>39.</b>
Friedman, Cindy F.	

**NAYS – 0.**

The yeas and nays having been completed at twenty-seven minutes before three o'clock P.M., the amendment was adopted.

Messrs. DiDomenico, Tarr and O'Connor, Ms. Lovely and Mr. Cyr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4513-1112, by inserting after the words "youth tobacco use prevention and cessation programs" the following words:- "; provided further, that not less than \$250,000 shall be expended for the ALS Association to provide care services for individuals suffering with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis"; and by striking out the figure "\$12,557,534" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$12,807,534".

*Remarks of Senator Sal N. DiDomenico.*

523

Remarks of Senator  
Sal N. DiDomenico.

**On motion of Mr. Tarr, under the provisions of Senate Rule 6A, the remarks were printed in the Journal of the Senate.**

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Ms. Edwards moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7004-

193

0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to the city of Revere to create a pilot program for grants of not less than \$5,000 directed to eligible first-time homebuyers who have lived in a jurisdiction selected by the city for not less than 18 months”.

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Ms. Edwards moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$75,000 shall be expended to the Brazilian Worker Center, Inc. in the city of Boston for the implementation and operation of their programs”.

201

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Ms. Miranda and Messrs. Gómez, Moore, Payano, Mark, O'Connor and Eldridge moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4000-0007, by striking out the figure:- “\$10,545,850” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$12,000,000”.

222

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Oliveira, Brady and Gómez, Ms. Kennedy, Mr. Eldridge, Ms. Rausch and Messrs. Lewis, O'Connor, Collins and Cronin moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2E, in item 1595-1075, by inserting the following item:-

229

“1595-1075 For an operating transfer to the Workforce Competitiveness Trust Fund established in section 2WWW of chapter 29 of the General Laws.....\$10,000,000 Gaming Economic Development Fund .....100%”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Payano and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended in section 2, by inserting after item 7002-1510 the following item:-

235

“7002-1517 For technical assistance to municipalities to promote compact, walkable downtowns that have a vibrant mix of commercial and residential uses, cultural and recreational amenities and access to public transportation.....\$600,000”.

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2810-0122, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended to the city of Salem, in consultation with the Friends of Salem Common, Inc., for improvements to the main entrance, perimeter safety enhancements and the replacement of historic lighting on the Salem Common”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$200,000”.

237

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to the city of Peabody for fully accessible play equipment at the Adventures for Angels Playground at Lt. Ross Park; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended to the city of Salem for Salem 400+ to support quadricentennial planning and programming for the 400th anniversary of the city of Salem”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$250,000”.

239

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to the city of Peabody for a new surface at the Corbeil Park Pickleball courts”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

240

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for the city of Beverly, for the purposes of supporting improvements to vehicular, pedestrian and bike safety navigation through the busy and highly trafficked corridor at the Essex Street/Spring Street/Corning Street intersection”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$200,000”.

241

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended to the town of Danvers for Streetscape enhancements, Green Spaces and Pocket Parks in Danvers Square”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$200,000”.

242

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Keenan and Montigny moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 0640-0010, by striking out said item and inserting in place thereof the following item:-

264

“0640-0010 For the promotional activities associated with the state lottery program; provided, that not later than June 30, 2026, the state lottery commission shall submit a report to the house and senate committees on ways and means and the joint committee on mental health, substance use and recovery detailing additional revenues generated as a result of promotional activities funded from this item and additional costs generated as a result of increased lottery game participation, including, but not limited to, financial problems, mental health problems, relationship problems, work/school problems, physical health problems and illegal behaviors; and provided further, that 25 per cent of the amount appropriated in this item shall be transferred quarterly from the State Lottery and Gaming Fund, established in section 35 of chapter 10 of the General Laws, to the General Fund .....\$6,000,000”.

After remarks, the amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Gómez and Oliveira moved that the proposed new text be amended in section 2, in item 0640-0300, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for Hope for Youth and Families, Inc. to expand arts opportunities for youth and increase the capacity of existing arts organizations in the city of Springfield”; and by striking out the figure “\$26,045,152” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$26,095,152”.

276

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Velis, Lewis and Eldridge, Ms. Lovely and Ms. Creem moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 5042-5000, by striking out the figure “\$3,875,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$4,375,000”; and by inserting after the word “capacity” the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$500,000 of that amount shall be expended for MCPAP for Schools”; and by striking out the figure “\$131,563,724” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$132,063,724”.

564

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Mr. Velis, Ms. Rausch, Mr. O'Connor, Ms. Lovely and Ms. Creem moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4512-2020, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$250,000 shall be expended for a competitive grant program for the development of specialized trauma trainings, each tailored to a specific form of hate or bias, to be provided to mental health clinicians and counselors and others to treat victims of hate and bias”; and by striking out the figure “\$1,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$1,250,000”.

576



After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Velis and O'Connor and Ms. Edwards moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 1410-0012, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$75,000 shall be expended for Vietnam Veterans of America in Massachusetts to aid veterans filing claims for medical and financial benefits”; and by striking out the figure “\$9,678,473” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$9,753,473”.

279

*Remarks of Senator John C. Velis.*

Thank you, Madam President. Through you to the members, I rise again today in support of Amendment 279, which is an increase that provides funding for the Vietnam Veterans of America. Madam President, I would just say this, the impact, the response that our Vietnam Veterans received in this Commonwealth and beyond post coming home from Vietnam is something that we can never ever forget, and it is constantly something that we need to do and support and invest in because of that unique experience that Vietnam Veterans experienced and what they do to ensure that type of treatment never happens to another veteran again. I'm proud to say that this chamber has supported the VVA for the last few budget cycles in order to ensure veterans receive this instance, and I'm glad to, again, sponsor the amendment this year. I hope the amendment is adopted. Thank you, Madam President.

Remarks of Senator  
John C. Velis.

**On motion of Mr. Collins, under the provisions of Senate Rule 6A, the remarks were printed in the Journal of the Senate.**

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_\_ the following section:-

290

“SECTION \_\_\_. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, all transportation service contracts issued or administered by the executive office of housing and livable communities shall be made public record and shall require the approval of two-thirds of the members of the Senate and House committees on ways and means.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_\_ the following section:-

294

“SECTION \_\_\_. (\_\_\_ a) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, no agency, department, office, or public authority of the commonwealth shall purchase or distribute gift cards or other stored-value cards, including those issued by American Express, Visa, Mastercard, or any similar provider, except where expressly authorized by statute. This prohibition shall apply to the use of public funds for the purpose of incentivizing participation in programs, providing rewards, or issuing disbursements through such stored-value instruments.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2100-0012, by striking out the figure “\$18,817,626” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$9,408,813”.

311

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Rausch, Mr. O'Connor and Ms. Creem moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2200-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$150,000 shall be expended to the department of environmental protection to develop and administer a grant program for small businesses located in the commonwealth to implement composting; provided further, that grants may be used by

348

grantees to obtain compost collection containers, procure educational or technical assistance, establish regular collection of food waste and other compostable matter or other similar composting efforts or activities; provided further, that agricultural businesses and food service establishments shall be prioritized in the grant application review process; provided further, that not later than April 1, 2026, the department of environmental protection, in coordination with the department of agricultural resources, shall submit a report to the senate and house committees on ways and means and the joint committee on environment and natural resources on the implementation of the grant program, including, but not limited to, the names and locations of the grantees, the number of pounds of food waste and other compostable matter collected and information about where the waste was diverted"; and by striking out the figure "\$488,748" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$638,748".

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Ms. Rausch and Messrs. Velis, Keenan, O'Connor, Finegold, Cyr and Montigny moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4513-1027, by striking out the figure "\$1,000,000" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$1,800,000".

405

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Ms. Miranda, Ms. Rausch, Ms. Edwards, Mr. Gómez, Ms. Kennedy, Messrs. Mark, Collins, Montigny, Moore, Eldridge, Keenan, Payano, Fernandes, O'Connor, Tarr and Cyr and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4590-1503, by adding the following words:- "; provided further, that not less than \$220,000 shall be expended for grants to community-based organizations to address mental health conditions and substance use disorders for perinatal individuals consistent with section 16GG of chapter 6A of the General Laws"; and by striking out the figure "\$13,853,103" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$14,073,103".

413

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Keenan, Collins, Gómez, Mark and Eldridge, Ms. Rausch, Mr. O'Connor and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4512-0205, by adding the following words:- "; provided further, that not less than \$475,000 shall be expended for the RecoveryWorks program at Massachusetts General Hospital, which is building a community of people in addiction recovery, including those who are court involved or returning citizens, families, organizations, and local resources to enhance participants' long-term recovery as they seek purpose, hope, and meaningful employment by (i) providing participants mentorship, career coaching, recovery and career oriented skills training groups, and assistance with removing barriers to (re)enter the workforce throughout the five-year duration of the program; and (ii) partnering with employers and organizations on education and anti-stigma efforts"; and by striking out the figure "\$100,000" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$575,000".

429

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Mr. Keenan moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4512-0200, by adding the following words:- "; provided further, that \$12,500,000 shall be spent for expanding low-threshold housing, employing a housing first model, for homeless individuals with substance use and mental health disorders at risk of HIV"; and by striking out the figure:- "\$179,642,798" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$182,142,798".

430

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Brownsberger in the Chair, Messrs. Cyr, Eldridge and Tarr, Ms. Edwards and Messrs. Collins, O'Connor and Brady moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4000-0300, by adding the following words:- "; provided further, that there shall be a special commission which shall consist of: the secretary of health and human services, or a designee from the office of the secretary, who shall serve as chair; the assistant

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secretary of MassHealth or a designee; the commissioner of mental health or a designee; the commissioner of children and families or a designee; the commissioner of insurance or a designee; the commissioner of early education and care or a designee; the commissioner of elementary and secondary education or a designee; the house and senate chairs of the joint committee on mental health, substance use and recovery or their designees; a representative of Association for Behavioral Healthcare, Inc.; a representative of Children's League of Massachusetts, Inc.; a representative of Massachusetts Association for Mental Health, Inc.'s Children's Mental Health Campaign; a representative of Massachusetts Association of Behavioral Health Systems, Inc.; a representative of Massachusetts Health and Hospital Association, Inc.; a representative of Massachusetts Association for Mental Health, Inc.; and a representative of the Parent/Professional Advocacy League, Inc.; provided further, that not later than June 30, 2026, the commission shall submit a special report to the joint committee on mental health, substance use and recovery, the joint committee on children, families and persons with disabilities, the joint committee on health care financing and the senate and house committees on ways and means detailing recommendations for improving access to behavioral health services for children and families; provided further, that the special report shall include, but not be limited to: (aa) a list of the behavioral health services, including services and treatment for substance use disorder and for autism spectrum disorder, available to children and adolescents under 22 years of age; (bb) a list of common challenges that children, adolescents and families face in seeking behavioral health services including, but not limited to, challenges associated with program eligibility criteria, affordability and cost-sharing, insurance or state program denials, application processes and service authorization processes, staffing, wait times and geography; (cc) recommended policies to address challenges identified under clause (bb) and for streamlining access to behavioral health services for children, adolescents and families including, but not limited to, adolescent continuing care inpatient and residential treatment services; (dd) a review of state funding dedicated to behavioral health services for children across state agencies and MassHealth and an examination of the impact of how such funding is used to maximize the delivery of services and available federal resources; (ee) analysis of the feasibility and effects of creating a single integrated children's behavioral health agency; (ff) a 3-year strategic plan for the delivery of behavioral health services for children and families that considers all providers and payers; and (gg) any matters deemed relevant by the commission; provided further, that the secretary of health and human services shall make the report publicly available online".

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Kennedy, Messrs. Collins, Moore, Eldridge, Fernandes and Payano, Ms. Rausch and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4000-0300, by adding the following words:- "provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended to Worcester Community Midwifery, Inc. to provide midwifery care and birth center services to families across the commonwealth"; and by striking out the figure "\$158,090,882" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$158,190,882".

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Ms. Kennedy, Ms. Rausch, Messrs. Montigny, Gómez, Cronin, Tarr, Eldridge, Payano, Lewis, Velis, O'Connor, Oliveira and Brady, Ms. Lovely and Messrs. Moore and Finegold moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4590-1507, by striking out the figure "\$650,000" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$1,000,000"; and by striking out the figure "\$7,200,000" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$7,550,000".

After remarks, the question on adoption of the amendment was determined by a call of the yeas and nays at nineteen minutes past four o'clock P.M., on motion of Ms. Kennedy,

as follows, to wit (yeas 39 – nays 0) [**Yeas and Nays No. 30**]:

**YEAS.**

Barrett, Michael J.	Gómez, Adam
Brady, Michael D.	Jehlen, Patricia D.
Brownsberger, William N.	Keenan, John F.
Collins, Nick	Kennedy, Edward J.
Comerford, Joanne M.	Kennedy, Robyn K.
Creem, Cynthia Stone	Lewis, Jason M.
Crighton, Brendan P.	Lovely, Joan B.
Cronin, John J.	Mark, Paul W.
Cyr, Julian	Miranda, Liz
DiDomenico, Sal N.	Montigny, Mark C.
Dooner, Kelly A.	Moore, Michael O.
Driscoll, Jr., William J.	O'Connor, Patrick M.
Durant, Peter J.	Oliveira, Jacob R.
Edwards, Lydia	Payano, Pavel
Eldridge, James B.	Rausch, Rebecca L.
Fattman, Ryan C.	Rodrigues, Michael J.
Feeney, Paul R.	Rush, Michael F.
Fernandes, Dylan A.	Tarr, Bruce E.
Finegold, Barry R.	Velis, John C. – <b>39.</b>
Friedman, Cindy F.	

**NAYS – 0.**

The yeas and nays having been completed at twenty-five minutes past four o'clock P.M., the amendment was adopted.

Ms. Rausch, Ms. Miranda, Messrs. Gómez, Collins, Keenan, Payano, Eldridge and Brady, Ms. Creem, Ms. Lovely and Mr. Montigny moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4403-2000, by striking out the words “only if it has been medically verified that the child is expected to be born within the month the payments are to be made or within the 3-month period after the month of payment” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- “only if the pregnancy has been medically verified”.

After remarks, the question on adoption of the amendment was determined by a call of the yeas and nays at twenty-one minutes before five o'clock P.M., on motion of Ms. Rausch, as follows, to wit (yeas 39 – nays 0) [**Yeas and Nays No. 31**]:

**YEAS.**

Barrett, Michael J.	Gómez, Adam
Brady, Michael D.	Jehlen, Patricia D.
Brownsberger, William N.	Keenan, John F.
Collins, Nick	Kennedy, Edward J.
Comerford, Joanne M.	Kennedy, Robyn K.
Creem, Cynthia Stone	Lewis, Jason M.
Crighton, Brendan P.	Lovely, Joan B.
Cronin, John J.	Mark, Paul W.
Cyr, Julian	Miranda, Liz
DiDomenico, Sal N.	Montigny, Mark C.
Dooner, Kelly A.	Moore, Michael O.
Driscoll, Jr., William J.	O'Connor, Patrick M.
Durant, Peter J.	Oliveira, Jacob R.
Edwards, Lydia	Payano, Pavel

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Eldridge, James B.  
Fattman, Ryan C.  
Feeney, Paul R.  
Fernandes, Dylan A.  
Finegold, Barry R.  
Friedman, Cindy F.

Rausch, Rebecca L.  
Rodrigues, Michael J.  
Rush, Michael F.  
Tarr, Bruce E.  
Velis, John C. – 39.

**NAYS – 0.**

The yeas and nays having been completed at sixteen minutes before five o'clock P.M., the amendment was adopted.

*Moment of Silence.*

At the request of the Chair (Mr. Brownsberger), the members, guests and staff stood in a moment of silence and reflection to the memory of John Andrew Childs.

Moment of Silence.

*Orders of the Day.*

The Orders of the Day were further considered as follows:

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. 4001),-- was further considered, the main question being on ordering the bill to a third reading.

General  
appropriations bill.

Messrs. Payano, Tarr and Finegold moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2511-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$500,000 shall be expended to Merrimack Valley Food Bank, Inc. for the operation of its food distribution programs and to combat food insecurity in Essex County”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$600,000”.

383

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Gómez, Oliveira, Velis, Mark, Keenan and Eldridge, Ms. Miranda, Ms. Lovely and Ms. Rausch moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4400-1000, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended to Springfield WORKS for its 3-year pilot program to mitigate cliff effects for low-income families in the commonwealth”; and by striking out the figure “\$107,462,031” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$107,562,031”.

526

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Mr. Barrett, Ms. Rausch, Messrs. Mark and Eldridge, Ms. Edwards and Messrs. Payano and Fernandes moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2100-0012, by striking out the figure “\$18,817,626” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$19,317,626”.

355

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Gómez and Oliveira moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4510-0110, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to the Baystate Brightwood Health Center in the city of Springfield for outreach to the neighborhoods served by the center, including in the North End section of the city of Springfield, to increase access to quality healthcare”; and by striking out the figure “\$5,335,599” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$5,385,599”.

527

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Gómez and Oliveira moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4200-0100, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than

528



\$150,000 shall be expended to the New North Citizens Council, Inc. for the Connecticut River Valley YouthBuild program”; and by striking out the figure “\$22,039,732” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$22,189,732”.

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 9110-1604, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$150,000 shall be expended to North Shore Community Health, Inc. for costs associated with El Centro project including, but not limited to, costs associated with connecting public health and affordable housing”; and by striking out the figure “\$11,642,961” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$11,792,961”.

531

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Ms. Friedman, Messrs. Gómez and Collins, Ms. Miranda, Messrs. Mark, Payano, Driscoll, Keenan and Fernandes, Ms. Rausch, Messrs. O'Connor, Tarr, Cyr, Montigny, Kennedy and Velis and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 5011-0100, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not later than the fifteenth day of each month, the department of mental health shall submit a report to the house and senate committees on ways and means, the joint committee on mental health, substance use and recovery and the joint committee on health care financing that shall include, but not be limited to, the following information from the previous month on department of mental health case management positions and caseloads for child and adult client cases: (i) the definitions of active and inactive client cases for department case management services; (ii) the number of active and inactive client cases for department case management services; (iii) the active and inactive caseload for each filled case manager position; (iv) the active and inactive caseload for each filled case manager supervisor position; (v) the number of full-time equivalent case manager positions; (vi) the number of case manager positions filled, vacant or on extended leave status; (vii) the number of full-time equivalent case manager supervisor positions; (viii) the number of case manager supervisor positions filled, vacant or on extended leave status; (ix) the definitions of encounters and collateral activities for department case management services; (x) the number of in-person encounters, telephonic encounters and virtual encounters with each client or legally authorized representative for each filled case manager position and each filled case manager supervisor position; (xi) the number of collateral activities for each filled case manager position and each case manager supervisor position; (xii) the target caseloads and encounters as defined by the department to meet the needs of its clients for department case management services; (xiii) the number of clients on a waitlist for department case management services; and (xiv) the number of applications accepted and denied for department case management services; provided further, that not less than 90 days prior to a change in the case management delivery service model, the department of mental health shall submit a report and a catalogue of best practices for publicly-operated case management services to the house and senate committees on ways and means, the joint committee on health care financing and the joint committee on mental health, substance use and recovery”.

536

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 5911-1003, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$30,000 shall be expended to Raising Harts, Inc. in the town of Cohasset to support children with autism and families through inclusive programs and mentorship; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended to S.A.I.L. Home, Inc. in the city known as the town of Weymouth to support inclusive programming for individuals with intellectual developmental disabilities”; and by striking out the figure “\$105,945,417” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$106,075,417”.

546

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Crighton, DiDomenico and Gómez, Ms. Edwards, Messrs. O'Connor and Eldridge, Ms. Creem and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 0930-0100, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$1,250,000 shall be expended for Roca. Inc.’s young mothers experiencing acute trauma pilot program”; and by striking out the figure “\$3,941,014” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$5,191,014”.

559

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Brady, Ms. Rausch and Messrs. Mark, Tarr, Oliveira, Eldridge, Payano, Fernandes, O'Connor and Velis moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4120-4000, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$500,000 shall be expended to REquipment Durable Medical Equipment (DME) and Assistive Technology (AT) Reuse Program, Inc. to improve the independence of individuals with disabilities through the refurbishment and repair of home medical equipment and assistive technology”; and by striking out the figure “\$14,327,398” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$14,827,398”.

568

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Payano, Lewis, Montigny, Gómez, Brady, Collins and Moore, Ms. Kennedy, Mr. Eldridge, Ms. Miranda and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4000-0005, by striking out the figure “\$12,600,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$15,000,000”.

594

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Driscoll and Eldridge moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7004-0101, by adding the following words:- “; provided, further, that the provisions governing access to temporary respite centers, included in section 2A of Chapter 1 of the Acts of 2025, shall remain in effect through June 30, 2026”.

597

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Kennedy moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section 36 the following 2 sections:-

495

“SECTION 36A. Section 23 of chapter 119 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by adding the following subsection:-

(j) The department shall comply with section 23D by providing benefit management services to children and young adults in the department’s care, custody or responsibility, including eligibility screening, representative payee or fiduciary assistance, as defined in said section 23D, notice, benefits accounting, conservation of benefits and other services relative to benefits, as defined in said section 23D.

SECTION 36B. Said chapter 119 is hereby further amended by inserting after section 23C the following section:-

Section 23D. (a) For the purposes of this section, the following words shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

‘Benefits’, (i) benefits under Title XVI of the Social Security Act, also referred to as ‘Supplemental Security Income’ or ‘SSI’; (ii) benefits under Title II of the Social Security Act, also referred to as ‘Retirement, Survivors or Disability Insurance Benefits’ or ‘RSDI’; or (iii) other federal benefits.

‘Representative payee or fiduciary’, any person or entity designated to receive benefits for a minor child or young adult under the agency rules governing such benefits.

(b) Not more than 60 days after a child is committed to custody of the department, including, but not limited to, placement in foster care under a voluntary placement agreement or court-ordered custody arrangement, the department shall make all reasonable efforts to identify whether the child is receiving or may be eligible to receive benefits. In reviewing eligibility, the department shall consult with the parents and other individuals

who may have information about the child's eligibility. If the department determines, or has cause to believe, that the child may be eligible for benefits, it shall apply for benefits on the child's behalf. If the agency administering such benefits denies the application, the department may appeal the decision as permitted by the agency administering the benefits. The department shall review cases of children in foster care annually to determine whether the child may have become eligible for benefits after the initial assessment determined them to be ineligible or whether the child may be eligible for new benefits after the initial assessment. The department shall seek federal foster care reimbursement for a child only if such reimbursement will not impact the child's eligibility for benefits or the dollar amount of benefits.

(c) The department may apply to be the representative payee or fiduciary of a child under its care and custody if the child is already receiving benefits prior to entering the department's custody. The department may also apply to be the representative payee or fiduciary if the department is applying for benefits for the child. The department shall consider whether applying to become the child's representative payee or fiduciary will undermine the goal of reunification and be contrary to the child's best interests.

(d) The department shall provide timely notice to counsel for a child in its care and custody and the counsel for the parent, parents or legal guardian or guardians of the child of: (i) the department's submission of an application for benefits on the child's behalf; (ii) the department's submission of a request to become the child's representative payee or fiduciary; (iii) the decision of an agency received by the department regarding benefits including denial, termination or reduction in benefits; (iv) the department's decision on whether to appeal an adverse benefits eligibility determination; (v) the outcome of any appeal filed in response to a benefits eligibility determination; and (vi) the department's receipt of any notice of an eligibility redetermination.

No notice shall be provided to a parent for whom a decree to dispense with consent to adoption has been entered under paragraph (4) of subsection (b) of section 26.

(e) The department shall maintain an accounting of a child's benefits when the department is the child's representative payee or fiduciary and shall make current accounting information available to the child's counsel electronically or by other means. The accounting information shall include: (i) the amount and source of benefits collected by the department and credited to any account maintained on behalf of the child; (ii) the balance of any account maintained on behalf of the child; (iii) any amounts deducted by the department and the reasons for the deductions; and (iv) information regarding all the child's assets and resources, including benefits, insurance, cash assets, trust accounts and earnings if such assets or resources are controlled by the department. The department shall provide such accounting information to the court at permanency hearings, at other court proceedings, as necessary, or upon request.

(f) The department shall not use a child's benefits to reimburse the commonwealth for the child's placement in foster care if the department is the child's representative payee or fiduciary. The department shall ensure that if the child is receiving supplemental security income benefits under Title XVI of the Social Security Act, any funds retained on the child's behalf are kept in a manner that does not exceed any federal asset or resource limit that would affect the child's eligibility to continue receiving such benefits. Benefits held by the department as a representative payee or fiduciary may be spent on the child's unmet needs, which would not ordinarily be funded by another source, subject to program rules for the use of such benefits, or otherwise conserved for the child. For a child who is a recipient of supplemental security income or other federal means-tested benefits with an asset or resource limit, the department shall conserve any funds that are above the federal asset or resource limits for such benefits in an Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) account, authorized by 26 U.S.C. 529A, as amended or another account for the child determined not

to interfere with federal asset or resource limits for any other federal means-tested benefit program. For a child who is not receiving supplemental security income or other federal means-tested benefits with an asset or resource limit, the department shall place excess funds in an interest-bearing account or other savings or investment vehicle for the benefit of the child. The department shall keep retroactive benefits received if the department is the child's representative payee or fiduciary as required by the program rules of the agency administering such benefits.

(g) The department shall take steps to conserve the benefits of children under its care and custody who are receiving benefits to assist them in the transition to adulthood and living independently. The department shall establish accounts as specified in subsection (e) in conserving a child's benefits. The department shall work actively with the agency administering such benefits and the child to ensure that when the child leaves foster care, becomes eligible for direct payment or another representative payee is identified, all payments of benefits or conserved funds will be: (i) returned to the agency following program rules; or (ii) upon agreement by the agency, if necessary, transferred to the child or to a new representative payee or fiduciary.

(h) The department shall provide a child under its care and custody who is not less than 14 years old and the child's legal counsel with ongoing financial information regarding the eligibility for benefits, as well as the existence, amount, availability, past use and limitations of funds conserved for the child; provided, however, that such information shall be tailored to the individual child based on age and other factors. For a youth not less than 17 years of age, financial information shall also include basic guidance on and assistance with understanding budgeting and money management, including checking and savings accounts, tailored to the youth.

(i) Beginning at 14 years of age, the department shall provide each child under its care and custody with ongoing financial literacy training and support and tailored to the child based on age and other factors. Financial literacy and support may include, but not be limited to, information on: (i) budgeting; (ii) money management; (iii) informed decision-making; (iv) banking, checking and savings accounts; (v) credit card counseling; (vi) managing debt; (vii) planning for financial security and stability; (viii) financing options for post-secondary education or training; (ix) long term asset-building; and (x) available community and agency services. Financial literacy resources concerning the use of conserved funds shall also be made available to all parents, guardians and adoptive parents who gain access to funds conserved by the department.

(j) Annually, the department shall submit a report to the senate and house committees on ways and means, the joint committee on children, families and persons with disabilities, the clerks of the senate and house of representative and the secretary of administration and finance. The report shall include: (i) the numbers of children in the department's care and custody receiving benefits for which the department is the representative payee or fiduciary; (ii) the numbers of children in the department's care or custody who are receiving SSI, RSDI or other federal benefits; (iii) the dollar amount of benefits being conserved by the department; (iv) the number and type of accounts established by the department on behalf of such children; and (v) to the extent such data is available, the number of children in the department's care or custody: (A) who were screened for eligibility for benefits and whether such screening occurred within 60 days of being committed to the department's custody, and if not, the date of the screening and reason for the delay; (B) who were already receiving benefits after screening; and (C) for whom the department submitted applications for benefits, by type of application, and the outcome of those applications, including the number of appeals filed; provided, however, that if such data is not available, the department shall provide information regarding its ongoing efforts to gather and report upon such information.

(k) The department shall continue to administer the benefits of young adults aged 18 to 22, inclusive, for whom the department was previously appointed representative payee or fiduciary, subject to the same requirements set forth in subsections (a) to (j), inclusive and subject to the young adult's consent. The department shall continue to provide financial literacy training under subsection (i) to young adults who become eligible for direct payment of benefits and continue to receive young adult services from the department.

(l) The department shall promulgate rules and regulations to implement this section.”;

By inserting after section 86 the following section:-

“SECTION 86A. The department of children and families shall promulgate regulations to implement section 23 of chapter 119 of the General Laws not more than 90 days after the effective date of this act.”; and

By inserting after section 89 the following section:-

“SECTION 89A. Subsections (d), (h) and (i) of section 23D of chapter 119 of the General Laws shall take effect on January 1, 2027; provided, however, that the department shall make best efforts to ensure compliance with said subsections (d), (h) and (i) as of the effective date of this act.”.

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Ms. Rausch and Messrs. Cyr, Eldridge and Oliveira moved that the proposed new text be amended by striking out, in line 216, the words “birth surnames” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- “name at birth or adoption”;

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In said section 20, by striking out, in said line 216, the word “both” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- “the parent or”;

In said section 20, by striking out, in line 218, the words “second parent” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- “other parent or parents”;

In said section 20, by striking out, in line 224, the words “birth-given names” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- “name at birth or adoption”;

In said section 20, by striking out, in line 225, the words “birth surname” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- “surname at birth or adoption”;

In said section 20 by striking out, in line 227, the words “name, birth surname” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- “surname at birth or adoption”;

In said section 20, by inserting after the word “deceased’s”, in line 228, the following words:- “parent or”;

In section 22 by striking out, in line 433, the words “or change the gender identity” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- “the sex”;

In said section 22, by striking out, in line 437, the words “change or”;

In said section 22, by striking out, in line 438, the words “gender identity” and inserting in place thereof the following word:- “sex”; and

By inserting after section 38 the following section:-

“SECTION 38A. Section 11 of chapter 209C of the General Laws, as most recently amended by chapter 166 of the acts of 2024, is hereby amended by inserting after the word ‘file’, in line 32, the following words:- ‘with the department of public health a notarized rescission or file’.”

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Collins moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$250,000 shall be expended to Camp Harbor View Foundation, Inc. to provide programming and family services at Camp Harbor View and its leadership academy”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$350,000”.

62

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Collins and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not

65



less than \$200,000 shall be expended for the Cape Verdean Association of Boston Inc. for community programming including English as a second language, citizenship training, and workforce development and job pathway programs”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$300,000”.

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Collins moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended to the South Boston Allied War Veterans Council for the planning and operational costs associated with the 250th anniversary celebration of Evacuation Day in Boston and the Evacuation Day and St. Patrick’s Day Parade”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$200,000”.

88

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Collins and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7002-1091, by adding the following words:- “; provided further that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended to Massachusetts Fallen Heroes for their Veteran Computer Lab and Tech Training Program”; and by striking out the figure “\$8,985,600” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$9,085,600”.

120

The amendment was adopted.

*Recess.*

There being no objection, at twenty-six minutes before six o’clock P.M., the Chair (Mr. Brownsberger) declared a recess subject to the call of the Chair; and, at three minutes before seven o’clock P.M., the Senate reassembled, Ms. Creem in the Chair.

Recess.

*Orders of the Day.*

The Orders of the Day were further considered as follows:

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. 4001),-- was further considered, the main question being on ordering the bill to a third reading.

General  
appropriations bill.

**There being no objection, the following amendments were considered as one, and rejected as follows:**

Messrs. Moore, Durant and Fattman, Ms. Kennedy and Messrs. Cronin, Eldridge, Collins and Driscoll moved that the proposed new text be amended in section 2, by inserting after item 7061-9619 the following item:-

602

“7061-9624 For the School of Excellence program at the Worcester Polytechnic Institute; provided, that every effort shall be made to recruit and serve equal numbers of male and female students; provided further, that sending districts of students attending the Institute shall not be required to expend any funds for the cost of these students while in attendance at the Institute; and provided further, that the Massachusetts Academy of Math and Science at the Worcester Polytechnic Institute shall provide professional development activities at the academy, including salary and benefits for teachers and visiting scholars ..... \$2,000,000”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Montigny, Ms. Rausch and Messrs. Collins, Gómez, Oliveira and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7061-0012, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$750,000 shall be expended for peer-to-peer inclusion programs for students with intellectual disabilities through the Massachusetts chapter of Best Buddies International, Inc.”; and by striking out the figure

608

“\$491,991,844” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$492,741,844”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Miranda, Messrs. Gómez, Rush, Collins, Fattman, Mark, Durant, Lewis, Cronin and Moore, Ms. Kennedy, Messrs. Oliveira, Eldridge and Keenan, Ms. Edwards, Ms. Rausch, Messrs. Payano and Kennedy, Ms. Jehlen and Messrs. Fernandes, Finegold, O'Connor, Driscoll and Montigny moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_ the following sections:-

“SECTION XX. 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.’

SECTION XX. 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 XX. 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.’

SECTION XX. (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

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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."

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Durant and Tarr and Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7035-0006, by striking out the figure "\$53,717,772" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$62,717,772".

626

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Durant, Collins, Eldridge, Payano, Fernandes, O'Connor, Brady and Driscoll moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4120-4000, by adding the following words:- "; provided further, that not less than \$400,000 shall be expended for Easterseals Massachusetts College Navigator Services"; and by striking out the figure "\$14,327,398" and inserting in the place thereof the following figure:- "\$14,727,398".

627

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Rush, Tarr and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7027-0019, by adding the following words:- "; provided further, that the board of elementary and secondary education would provide to secondary schools not less than \$375,000, which shall be expended for grants to support hands-on CPR training in public schools across the Commonwealth" and by striking out the figures "\$6,531,266" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$6,906,266"

633

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Fernandes, Eldridge, Keenan, O'Connor and Gómez moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2511-0107, by inserting the following:- "; provided further, that not less than \$12,200,000 shall be expended for the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to support Local Food for Schools grant funding to enable public schools to purchase food from local farms"; and by striking out the figure "\$100,000" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$12,300,000."

640

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Fernandes and Ms. Rausch moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_\_\_ the following section:-

641

"SECTION \_\_\_\_ . Section 7A of chapter 71 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding the following paragraph:-

The department shall establish a pricing structure, including a daily price cap, for contracts between private transportation companies and school committees for the transportation of pupils receiving special education and out-of-district students, and for the transportation of pupils in school districts receiving funds under the federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, based on factors including the number of students transported daily, the number of miles traveled and the schedule of rates and wages furnished by the commissioner of labor and industries pursuant to the second paragraph, if such a schedule is furnished to a particular school committee. A school transportation commission shall be established within the department to promote fairness, equity and cost transparency in public school transportation for students receiving special education and out-of-district students. The commission shall consist of the following 15 members: 4 members from the department; 5 members serving on a school committee, to be appointed

by the commissioner; 3 members representing school transportation providers, to be appointed by the governor; and 3 members of advocacy groups specializing in issues related to students in foster care and experiencing homelessness. The commission shall promulgate regulations, pursuant to chapter 30A, which shall include: (i) guidance on how to better serve pupils in the foster care system or experiencing homelessness, or pupils from migrant communities; and (ii) a system for ensuring compliance with the pricing structure and pricing cap developed by the department. Annually, not later than September 30, the commission shall conduct a review of school transportation contract compliance. Contracts exceeding a financial threshold, to be determined by the commission, shall be subject to direct review and approval, while all other contracts shall be subject to compliance audits and reporting requirements as determined by the commission. The commission shall annually assess the impact of the transportation pricing structure on the educational experience and outcomes for students, including special education, homeless and foster care students. The department shall use the results of the commission's assessment to make necessary adjustments to the pricing structure, policies and guidelines to ensure that the transportation system remains effective and equitable."

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Fernandes moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7061-9813, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that for the purpose of calculating student density pursuant to this item, the department shall not include students enrolled in the school district due to their placement in the emergency housing assistance program under section 30 of chapter 23B of the General Laws.”

642

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Fernandes moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_\_\_ the following section:-

643

“SECTION \_\_\_\_ . Any municipal school district, whose transportation costs per pupil exceed 125 per cent of the average transportation costs per pupil in the commonwealth, shall be reimbursed for its school transportation expenses in the same manner and to the same extent as regional school districts.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Fernandes moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_\_\_ the following section:-

644

“SECTION \_\_\_\_ . Any municipality whose total square mileage is within the total square mileage of any of the fifteen largest regional school districts, shall be reimbursed for its school transportation expenses in the same manner and to the same extent as regional school districts.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Cronin, Ms. Rausch and Messrs. Mark, Tarr, Eldridge and Oliveira moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7035-0006, by striking out the figure “\$53,717,772” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$77,708,301”.

652

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Cronin and Ms. Rausch moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7066-0009, by striking out the figure “\$374,740” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$433,525”.

653

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Cronin, Lewis, Eldridge and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for the Massachusetts Biotechnology Education Foundation, Inc. to increase career pathways for the life sciences sector”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$125,000”.

654

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Cronin and Collins moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7035-0001, by inserting after the words “transportation program”, the following words:- “; provided further, DESE is prohibited from awarding funds from this grant program to vocational school districts that discriminate against protected classes of applicants and economically disadvantaged applicants, by using selective admissions criteria to rank order applicants, as measured by DESE opportunity gap data;”.

655

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Cronin, Brady, Moore, Lewis, O'Connor and Collins moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7035-0001, by striking out the figure “\$3,118,500” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$4,000,000”.

657

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Cronin, Ms. Rausch, Messrs. Payano, Collins, Gómez, Eldridge, Keenan, Mark, Montigny, Oliveira and Fernandes, Ms. Miranda and Messrs. O'Connor, Moore, Velis, Crighton, Brady and Kennedy moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 3000-7070, by striking out the figure “\$1,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$1,750,000”.

659

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Kennedy, Messrs. Gómez, Mark, Payano, Fernandes and Collins, Ms. Rausch and Messrs. O'Connor, Eldridge and Tarr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by inserting the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$250,000 shall be expended for the Girl Scout Councils of Massachusetts to provide afterschool, out-of-school and continuing education for girls in the areas of STEM, entrepreneurship, life skills, and the outdoors as well as leadership development”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$350,000”.

661

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Kennedy and Messrs. Gómez, Moore and Collins moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by inserting the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$200,000 shall be expended to the University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School for the ScienceLIVE outreach and education program aimed at attracting young women to careers in STEM”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$300,000”.

663

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Fattman moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “provided further, that not less than \$45,000 shall be expended to the Mendon-Upton regional school district for school safety items, including but not limited to the purchase and installation of a single-point entry keycard system for enhanced school security”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$145,000”.

667

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Fattman moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to Oxford public schools for education related expenses including, but not limited to classroom chromebook laptops”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

668

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Fattman moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to the Bridge of Faith Youth Center, Inc. in the city known as the town of Southbridge for infrastructure buildout and construction”; and by striking out the figure

669



“\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Fattman moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$15,000 shall be expended to Old Sturbridge Village, Inc. in the town of Sturbridge for facility upgrades and maintenance”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$115,000”.

672

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. DiDomenico, Ms. Edwards and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended in Section 2, by inserting after item 7061-9401 the following item:-

676

“xxxx-xxxx For a statewide college and career readiness program implemented by JFYNetWorks, a nonprofit corporation, to: (i) provide online instructional curricula to help students meet the Massachusetts State Standards at each grade level and reduce learning loss and achievement gaps; and (ii) prepare students for required assessments and college placement tests in middle and high schools.....\$875,000”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. DiDomenico, Ms. Lovely and Messrs. Lewis, Brady and Collins moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7027-0019, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$300,000 shall be expended for Triangle, Inc.’s School to Career Program that connects special education students with disabilities in Greater Boston to careers and their local communities”; and by striking out the figure “\$6,531,266” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$6,831,266”.

679

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. DiDomenico and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-0033, by inserting after the word “months”, the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$350,000 shall be expended for The Literacy Lab for the purposes of placing recent high school graduates in classrooms or community-based early childhood centers to provide evidence-based literacy intervention services to at-risk Pre-K students, and to provide participants with training, coaching, and professional development, with the goal of diversifying the educator pipeline and educating participants on the teacher education and licensure process in Massachusetts”; and by striking out the figure “\$5,276,684” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “5,626,684”.

680

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. DiDomenico, Kennedy, Moore, Durant, Mark, Gómez and Payano, Ms. Kennedy, Messrs. Collins, O'Connor, Crighton, Eldridge, Cronin and Keenan and Ms. Miranda moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_\_\_ the following section:-

683

“SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. Notwithstanding section 13A of chapter 15D of the General Laws, inserted by section 32 of chapter 140 of the acts of 2024, all child care financial assistance payments pursuant to said section 13A of said chapter 15D to providers through both vouchers pursuant to clause (i) of paragraph (b) of said section 13A of said chapter 15D and contracts pursuant to clause (ii) of said paragraph (b) of said section 13A of said chapter 15D, including Family Child Care Systems Administration, Priority Population Support Services Administration and base contract administration, shall include retention revenue policies and practices, including allowing providers to retain 20 per cent annual surplus revenue retention from both the unit rate and cost reimbursement payments that were in place prior to contracts with an effective date of October 1, 2024 resulting from the request for responses by the department of early education and care dated March 20, 2024 and titled ‘Contract Provider and FCC Systems – Income Eligible’.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Fattman, Eldridge and Collins moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 3000-7050, by striking out the figure “\$11,740,598” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$12,740,598”. 688

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Lovely, Messrs. Velis, Collins, Lewis, Tarr, Eldridge, Keenan, Fernandes and Payano, Ms. Rausch and Messrs. O'Connor and Crighton moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 5042-5000, by adding the following words:- “; provided further; that not less than \$250,000 be expended to The Nan Project to increase mental health awareness and suicide prevention”; and by striking out the figure “\$131,563,724” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$131,813,724”. 694

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Lovely and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 3000-7000, by striking out the figure “\$17,855,920” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$19,355,920”. 697

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Lovely and Mr. Mark moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7009-6600, by adding the following words:-”; provided further, that \$100,000 shall be expended to Salem State University for the early college educator pipeline”, and by striking out the figure “\$14,205,894” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$14,305,894”. 698

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Lovely and Messrs. Mark, Gómez, Lewis, Moore and Collins moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 3000-7052, by striking out the figure “\$4,250,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$4,600,000”. 700

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Lovely, Messrs. Durant, Gómez, Lewis, Keenan, Payano and Collins, Ms. Rausch and Messrs. Eldridge and Brady moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7066-9600, by inserting after the words “student outcomes in programs funded under this item” the following words:- “and progress report on efforts to implement the higher education access law in accordance with sections 12, 35, 36, 165 and 168 of chapter 126 of the acts of 2022”; and by striking out the figure “\$5,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$5,500,000”. 701

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Mark and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7113-0100, by striking out the figure “\$24,894,530” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$25,188,409”. 705

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Lovely and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in Section 2F, in item 1596-2501, by inserting after the words “provided further, that funds from this item may be expended to create awareness and conduct public outreach related to MassReconnect”, the following words:- “provided further, that at the discretion of the Department of Higher Education, not less than \$4,000,000 shall be expended on a comprehensive, integrated solution to reengage, retain, and support the successful degree completion of Stop-Out, Some College No Credential learners through an Education to Workforce Marketplace at a statewide level;”. 707

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Lovely and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7100-0700, by striking out the figure “\$2,813,465” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$3,413,465”. 708

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Mark moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4400- 709

1000, by adding the following words:- “provided further, that not less than \$200,000 shall be expended for supporting transition-aged youth through the Friends of Children, Inc. FOCUS Program”; and by striking out the figure “\$107,462,031” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$107,662,031”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Mark, Collins, Moore, Eldridge, Payano, O'Connor, Oliveira and Driscoll moved that the proposed new text be amended in section 2, by inserting after item 1596-2501 the following item:-

710

“xxxx-xxxx For a reserve to offset reductions in federal funding impacting staffing levels and the needs of students at the Commonwealth’s public higher education institutions; provided that at the close of fiscal year 2026 any unspent balance shall be made available to improve staff and faculty wage rates in order to make them more comparable with the national average, accounting for the cost of living.....\$200,000,000  
Education and Transportation Fund ..... 100%”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Mark moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding a new section:-

712

“SECTION XX. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the bureau of purchased services in the operational services division shall determine prices for programs under chapter 71B of the General Laws in fiscal year 2026 by increasing the final fiscal year 2025 price by the rate of inflation as determined by the division. The division shall adjust prices for extraordinary relief pursuant to subsection (4) of 808 CMR 1.06. The division shall accept applications for program reconstruction and special circumstances in fiscal year 2026. The division shall authorize the annual price for out of-state purchasers requested by a program, not to exceed a maximum price determined by the bureau, by identifying the most recent price calculated for the program and applying the estimated rate of inflation for each year, as determined by the bureau under section 22N of chapter 7 of the General Laws, in which the rate of inflation is frozen beginning with fiscal year 2004, in a compounded manner for each fiscal year.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Mark, Collins, Moore, Eldridge, Keenan, Payano, Driscoll and Kennedy moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following section:-

714

“SECTION XX. A. There is hereby established and set up on the books of the commonwealth a separate fund to be known as the Faculty Restoration and Equity Fund, hereinafter referred to as the fund. The fund shall provide resources to institutions of public higher education in the commonwealth to: (1) ensure that no less than 75 percent of undergraduate courses are taught by full time faculty and (2) ensure adequate support staff at each institutional by requiring that that no less than 75 percent of support and professional staff in each institutional department are full time employees; and (3) ensure that part-time and other non-tenure track faculty receive fully comparable pay, including per course pay parity, and benefits to full-time tenure and tenure-track faculty according to the provisions of section 2 of this act. The department of higher education shall determine funding allocation, with priority given to institutions with the highest utilization of part-time and non-tenure track faculty.

B. Section 3(2)(d) of Chapter 32, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is amended by adding the following new paragraph:-

‘For purposes of this section and notwithstanding the provisions of this chapter or any other general or special law, rule or regulation to the contrary, any faculty or staff who teach the equivalent of at least two three credit courses per semester or four three- or more- credit courses per calendar year at one or more state higher education institution, including a division of continuing education, regardless of funding source, including but not limited to

subsidiary account CC, or whose cumulative weekly hours worked at all campuses, including hours teaching courses if applicable, is half-time or more for two or more semesters per calendar year shall be considered an employee eligible for membership in the state employees retirement system and shall earn creditable service for such time.’

C. Section 4(2)(b) of Chapter 32, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is amended by inserting the following in line 476 after the word ‘membership’ the following:- ‘provided, that in the case of any faculty employed at one or more state higher education institution, the board shall credit as at least one-half year of service, actual service teaching the equivalent of at least four three- credit courses per calendar year’;

D. Section 4(2)(c) of Chapter 32, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is amended by adding the following paragraph:-

‘For faculty employed at one or more state higher education institution, the board, in accordance with the provisions of this section, shall allow credit for any previous period of service equivalent to teaching at least four three- credit courses per calendar year at one or more state higher education institution, including a division of continuing education, regardless of funding source, including but not limited to subsidiary account CC.’

E. Section 1 of Chapter 32, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is amended by inserting in line 457 after the word ‘fund.’ the following sentence:- ‘In the case of any faculty or staff employed at one or more state higher education institution, the full salary and wages received for teaching credit courses at one or more state higher education institution, including a division of continuing education, regardless of funding source, including but not limited to subsidiary account CC, shall be regarded as regular compensation and shall be included in the salary on which deductions are to be paid to the annuity savings fund.’

F. Section 2 (e) of chapter 32A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is hereby amended in line 114 by inserting after the word ‘hours’ the following:- ‘or faculty who teach the equivalent of at least two three or more- credit courses per semester or four three or more- credit courses per calendar year at one of more state higher education institutions, including a division of continuing education, regardless of funding source, including but not limited to subsidiary account CC, and regardless of the term of employment;’

G. Notwithstanding any law or regulation to the contrary, the state employees retirement system shall contribute an amount equal to not less than 7.5 percent of each employee’s regular compensation to all part-time or non-tenure track faculty member employed at a public institution of higher education who are enrolled in the Commonwealth’s SMART Plan, as permitted by the federal Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990.

H. Notwithstanding any law or regulation to the contrary, all part-time and adjunct faculty shall, subject to collective bargaining with the exclusive representatives of the full-time and part-time faculty at the public institution of higher education, receive pay that is equal, on a pro rata basis, with that of full-time, non-tenure track faculty of comparable qualifications doing comparable work.

I. Notwithstanding any law or regulation to the contrary, each public institution of higher education shall establish a process under which part-time and other non-tenure track faculty, after successful completion of a probationary period, receive timely notice and priority consideration, consistent with other institutional and state policies, for part-time and non-tenure track teaching assignments. The provisions of this section are subject to collective bargaining between the public institutions of higher education and the exclusive representatives of part-time and non-tenure track faculty.

J. Notwithstanding any law or regulation to the contrary, each public institution of higher education shall create a process for ensuring that qualified non-tenure track faculty members receive full and fair consideration in attaining a tenure-track position when one

becomes available, consistent with department needs, institutional and state affirmative action, and other personnel policies. This process shall ensure that non-tenure track faculty: (1) accumulate seniority; (2) are notified of job openings prior to the job being posted outside of the institution; and (3) are interviewed during the search and screen process. The provisions of this section are subject to collective bargaining between the public institution of higher education and the exclusive representatives of part time and non-tenure track faculty.

K. Nothing in this act shall be construed to either limit or reduce salaries, benefits or hiring rights in existence at any public institution of higher education at the time this legislation passes into law.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Miranda moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$200,000 shall be expended to Boston Plan for Excellence to expand early college program opportunities through its STEM Tech Academy model and its STEM Career Pathways program and student support services”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$300,000”.

719

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Fattman moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$124,000 shall be expended to the Blackstone Valley Vocational regional school district for the purchase of a special education transportation van”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$224,000”.

732

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Mark, Ms. Rausch and Messrs. O'Connor and Keenan moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7035-0007, by striking out the figure “\$1,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$6,000,000”.

736

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. O'Connor, Montigny, Collins, Tarr, Eldridge, Keenan, Payano, Gómez and Moore, Ms. Jehlen, Ms. Miranda and Messrs. Brady and Driscoll moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4590-0250, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$150,000 shall be expended for the School Nurse Liaison Project to support student mental health by providing education, professional development training, and consultation support for public and nonpublic schools and by facilitating access to telehealth services in schools in the Commonwealth”.

740

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Oliveira, Ms. Rausch and Messrs. Mark, Kennedy and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7000-9101, by striking out the figure “\$2,074,268” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$2,489,122”.

741

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Oliveira, Ms. Rausch and Messrs. Mark, Durant, Kennedy and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7000-9506, by striking out the figure “\$6,172,690” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$6,477,954”.

742

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_\_\_ the following section:-

744

“SECTION \_\_\_\_ . (a) There shall be a special commission to study vocational-technical education program admissions in the commonwealth and to make recommendations on: (i) admissions policies pursuant to chapter 74 of the General Laws; (ii) the collection, dissemination, and analysis of district-level and statewide data on vocational-technical education program admissions and waitlists pursuant to said chapter 74; and (iii) the



enforcement and review standards for said admissions policies and related data.

(b) The commission shall consist of the following 9 members: 3 members of the senate, including the senate chair of the joint committee on education who shall serve as co-chair, 1 member appointed by the senate minority leader, and 1 member appointed by the senate president; 3 members of the house of representatives, including the house chair of the joint committee on education who shall serve as co-chair, 1 member appointed by the house minority leader, and 1 member appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives; 1 representative of the Massachusetts Association of Vocational Administrators; 1 superintendent or principal from a vocational-technical school; and 1 graduate of a vocational-technical high school or an employer in the trades industry.

(c) The first meeting of the commission shall be held not later than September 15, 2025. The commission shall conduct at least 1 public hearing to solicit testimony from the public. Not later than September 15, 2026, the commission shall file a report with its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, with the clerks of the house and senate and the house and senate committees on ways and means.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_\_\_ the following section:-

746

“SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the department of elementary and secondary education shall not: (i) promulgate or otherwise amend its regulations relative to vocational-technical education program admissions pursuant to chapter 74 of the General Laws prior to the completion of the report of the task force established pursuant to section 65; or (ii) take any other action prior to the completion of the report of the task force that would otherwise alter, amend or affect the admissions policies of schools and programs pursuant to said chapter 74 for the 2025-2026 school year or 2026-2027 vocational-technical education program admissions cycle.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$20,000 shall be expended for gymnasium upgrades at Old Rochester Regional High School”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$120,000”.

747

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Cronin moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_\_\_ the following section:-

771

“SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. Section 23 of chapter 32 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2020 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting, in line 201, after the words ‘representative of a public safety union’ the following words:- ‘from a list of 3 candidates nominated by the executive board of the Massachusetts Association of Contributory Retirement Systems, Inc. who shall be a member of a retirement system that has been vested in the PRIT Fund’.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Cronin moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_\_\_ the following section:-

773

“SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. Section 2. Section 6(q) of chapter 62, as so appearing, is hereby amended by adding the following subsection:-

(7) EOHLIC may authorize up to \$5,000,000 in credits to an individual project.

Section 3. The definition of ‘housing development project’, as appearing in Title VII Chapter 40V Section 1, shall be amended as follows:

‘Housing development project’, a multi-unit residential rehabilitation project that is located in a gateway municipality and once rehabilitated, shall contain at least 80 per cent

market rate units unless an exemption is requested by the chief municipal executive where the project is located, and subsequently granted by EOHLC.

Section 5. Title VII Chapter 40V Section 3 Approval of application for tax exemption for housing development project under Sec. 59 of chapter 59 shall be amended as follows:

Under section 5M of chapter 59, the department shall approve within 90 days a municipality's tax exemption agreement for a housing development project located within an approved housing development zone."

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Cronin, Eldridge, O'Connor and Moore moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after item \_\_\_\_ the following item:-

778

"xxxx-xxxx For an operating transfer to the Disaster Relief and Resiliency Fund established in section 2HHHHHH of chapter 29 of the General Laws; provided that, notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, prior to transferring the consolidated net surplus in the budgetary funds for fiscal year 2026 to the Commonwealth Stabilization Fund pursuant to section 5C of chapter 29 of the General Laws, the comptroller shall transfer \$15,000,000 from the General Fund to the Disaster Relief and Resiliency Fund established in section 2HHHHHH of said chapter 29.....\$15,000,000".

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Mark moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- "; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for the Southwick Public Library for continued improvements including the construction of a handicapped accessible sidewalk and platforms"; and by striking out the figure "\$100,000" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$125,000".

801

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Velis moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following section:-

802

"SECTION XX. Notwithstanding the provisions of any general or special law, rule or regulation to the contrary, a member in service in good standing of a retirement system as defined in section 65A through 65J, inclusive, of Chapter 32 of the General Laws and in Part II, c. 3, art. 1 as amended by art. 98 of the Amendments of the Constitution, shall be provided written notice by the retirement board upon entry into service that if they qualify as a veteran who served in the armed forces of the United States, they shall be entitled to credit for active service in the armed services of the United States; provided, however, that such active service shall not be credited until such member, prior to or within 1 year of vesting pursuant to this chapter, has paid into the annuity savings fund of such system, in 1 sum or in installments, upon such terms and conditions as the board may prescribe, makeup payments, for each year of creditable service sought, of an amount equal to 10 per cent of the regular annual compensation of the member when said member entered the retirement system; provided further, that such creditable service shall not be construed to include service for more than 4 years; and provided further, that such creditable service shall not be allowed for any period of active service for which said veteran has received credit pursuant to this paragraph. This paragraph shall apply to national guard and active reserve personnel, both former and present. Creditable service time, both enlisted and commissioned, may be applied toward retirement on a ratio of 5 years of national guard service or 5 years of active reserve service substitutable for each year of active service. National guard and active reserve personnel shall not be precluded from making said purchase if they qualify as a veteran after vesting or if they reach the maximum of 4 years of eligible service purchase after vesting and qualifying as a veteran; provided, however, that they enter into a purchase agreement within 5 years of the last occurring event. The provisions of this paragraph shall apply to judges with pending decisions before the state retirement board as of the date of

this act and those judges eligible for retirement as of August 8, 2024. Any judge denied creditable service for military service, as provided for in this paragraph, between August 8, 2024, and the effective date of this act shall not be denied the right to re-apply for this benefit or to appeal any decisions made by the state retirement board or any appellate body thereof.

The provisions of this paragraph shall take effect upon passage.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mrs. Dooner and Messrs. Tarr and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_ the following section:-

“SECTION \_\_. Section 30 of Chapter 23B of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the first paragraph the following:-

(a) Notwithstanding any general or special law, rule, or regulation to the contrary, eligibility for the emergency housing assistance program shall be limited to (1) United States citizens and (2) lawfully present immigrants who have maintained continuous legal residency in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for at least 12 consecutive months immediately prior to the date of application.

(b) Acceptable proof of legal residency must consist of the following two forms of documentation, both issued at least 12 months before the application date:

(i) Proof of U.S. Citizenship or Lawful Permanent Residency: A valid U.S. Passport with a Massachusetts address; a certified U.S. Birth Certificate with proof of Massachusetts residency; a valid Certificate of Naturalization or Citizenship; or a valid Green Card issued at least one year prior.

(ii) Proof of Continuous Residency in Massachusetts: A filed state income tax return for the most recent tax year; a valid Massachusetts REAL ID issued at least one year prior; or other official documentation, such as a lease, mortgage, utility bill, or pay stub showing one-year continuous residency.

(d) All submitted documentation shall be subject to verification by the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities in coordination with the Department of Revenue and the Registry of Motor Vehicles. Fraudulent submissions shall result in permanent disqualification from the program.

(f) The Executive Office shall promulgate regulations to enforce this residency requirement, including cross-agency verification and fraud detection protocols.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Fattman moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_ the following section:-

“SECTION X. Section 16B of chapter 62C of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting in line 32 after the words ‘total tax collected during the filing period’, the following:- ‘or if an entity has engaged in willful ignorance of the implementation of this section and other guidance issued by the department of revenue, or if fines and penalties have caused hardship’.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Velis and Tarr, Mrs. Dooner and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following section:-

“SECTION XX. The executive office of veterans services shall establish a secure portal for veterans and family members to submit information and complaints regarding access to healthcare services in the Commonwealth, including at any healthcare center or facility operated or associated with the United States department of veterans affairs.

The portal shall be made available on the office’s public website, and the office shall work to conduct outreach to inform veterans about the portal and gather feedback, including but not limited to: (i) publicly posted and open meetings in areas geographically located near department of veterans affairs centers; (ii) distribution of the portal through the

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statewide advocacy for veterans empowerment (SAVE) program, the supporting and empowering reintegration for veterans equality (SERVE) program, the office of housing, equity, resilience, and outreach services (HEROS) program, the veteran education, employment, and training (VEET) program, and the women veterans network (WVN); (iii) outreach to veterans organizations operating in the commonwealth; and (iv) outreach in coordination with the joint committee on veterans and federal affairs.

The office shall compile and review all information, data, complaints submitted through the portal on a bi-monthly basis and submit a report that includes but is not limited to: (i) complaints related to access veteran healthcare in the commonwealth at Department of Veterans Affairs healthcare centers; (ii) information related to changes in veteran healthcare in the commonwealth as a result of federal regulations; and (iii) any recommendations on action the commonwealth may be able to take to improve veteran healthcare. The office shall take all necessary steps to ensure that no identifiable or private information is shared.

The reports shall be submitted to the joint committee on veterans and federal affairs, the joint committee on health care financing, and the members of the Massachusetts congressional delegation.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mrs. Dooner and Messrs. Tarr and Fernandes moved that the proposed new text be amended by striking out subsection (a) and inserting in place thereof the following subsection:-

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“(a) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, an authority established pursuant to this chapter may not, subject to appropriation and Advisory Board approval, charge passenger fare for any trip on regularly scheduled fixed route service, or for any trip on complementary paratransit service that an authority is required to provide pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. §12143. The Massachusetts Department of Transportation shall, subject to appropriation, reimburse an authority for lost fare revenue associated with providing fare-free service pursuant to this section.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

**As previously stated, the above amendments were considered as one and *rejected*.**

**There being no objection, the following amendments were considered as one, and adopted as follows:**

Mr. Brownsberger, Ms. Rausch and Mr. Tarr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7061-0012, by striking the terms “exceed both \$1,000,000 and 25 per cent of all tuition” and replacing it with the following:- “exceed both \$1,000,000 and 20 per cent of all tuition”.

609

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Creem and Ms. Rausch moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for Zamir Chorale of Boston, Inc. to support its musical and educational programming for the public”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$125,000”.

620

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Creem moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7507-0100, by adding the following words:- “; provided, that not less than \$85,000 shall be expended for the MassBay Center for Cybersecurity Education”; and by striking out the figure “\$23,389,560” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$23,474,560”.

621

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Lewis, Mark, Moore and Keenan, Ms. Edwards, Messrs. Driscoll, Payano and Fernandes, Ms. Rausch, Messrs. Montigny and Collins, Ms. Miranda and Messrs. O'Connor and Eldridge moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-

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1192, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$1,000,000 shall be expended for programs and resources to support farm to school and food system literacy programming in public elementary and secondary schools and early education programs; provided further, that the department of elementary and secondary education may expend these funds to: (i) offer grants through the current operating farm to school FRESH grant program in an amount of not less than \$750,000; and (ii) expand the school wellness coaching program in an amount of \$250,000”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$1,100,000”.

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Lewis, Gómez and Eldridge, Ms. Rausch and Mr. Payano moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7518-0100, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$190,000 shall be expended for the Boston Welcome Back Center at Bunker Hill community college to assist internationally-educated nurses in their efforts to become licensed to practice in commonwealth”; and by striking out the figure “\$40,057,434” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$40,247,434”.

631

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Miranda and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7070-0065, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$500,000 shall be expended for financial assistance to students enrolled in independent, nonprofit vocational-technical institutions of higher education in the commonwealth that are minority-serving institutions as defined by the United States Department of Education at least twice in the previous 4 years and whose majority of students are eligible for federal Pell grants”; and by striking out the figure “\$175,188,311” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$175,688,311”.

632

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Rush moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7061-9611, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$35,000 shall be expended for Boston Athletic Academy, Incorporated located in the Hyde Park section of the city of Boston for after school programming and youth supports”; and by striking out the figure “\$7,522,449” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$7,557,449”.

634

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Rush moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$75,000 shall be expended to the Dedham Youth Commission to purchase a van”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$175,000”.

635

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Collins moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7070-0065, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended toward academic and financial support services for students of the Urban College of Boston: A Two-Year College, Inc”; and by striking out the figure “\$175,188,311” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$175,288,311”.

638

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Moore moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$90,000 shall be expended to the Worcester Natural History Society, doing business as the EcoTarium Museum of Science and Nature, for science, technology, engineering and math education programs, including transportation to and from such programs as necessary, to be delivered in community centers, libraries, schools and youth-serving organizations during out-of-school hours”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$190,000”.

647



The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Jehlen and Messrs. Gómez, Eldridge, Collins, O'Connor, Payano and Driscoll moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 3000-1000, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$300,000 shall be expended to Jumpstart for Young Children, Inc. to provide evidence-based early childhood education programs to enhance language, literacy and early relational health for preschool children from communities with untapped potential”; and by striking out the figure “\$7,993,365” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$8,293,365”.

649

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Jehlen and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7066-0000, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$450,000 shall be expended for Journey into Education & Teaching, Inc. to strengthen the educator workforce pipeline”; and by striking out the figure “\$4,850,964” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$5,300,964”.

650

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Kennedy moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7116-0100, by adding the following words:- “; provided, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for the Latino Education Institute and pre-collegiate programs at Worcester State University”; and by striking out the figure “\$42,665,420” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$42,715,420”.

660

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Lewis moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$75,000 shall be expended to the Reading school district for accessible school transportation for students with special needs”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$175,000”.

664

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Kennedy moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less \$25,000 shall be expended for the Together for Kids Coalition in the city of Worcester to promote the health, wellbeing and success of young children and their families; provided further, that not less than \$40,000 shall be expended to the Worcester Education Collaborative and the United Way of Central Massachusetts, Inc. for the Worcester Literacy Partnership to increase literacy achievement among children”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$165,000”.

666

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Lewis moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended to Melrose public schools for capital improvements”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$200,000”.

675

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. DiDomenico moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for the music program at the high school in the city of Everett; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 be expended to La Vida Scholars in the city of Chelsea to support their college preparation programs; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for the music program at the high school in the city of Chelsea”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$200,000”.

677

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. DiDomenico moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000

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shall be expended for the theater program at public schools in the city of Cambridge; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to Loop Lab, Inc. to empower youth to access careers in media arts through job training and paid internships; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to Courageous Sailing Center for Youth, Inc. in the Charlestown section of the city of Boston for youth programming and enrichment opportunities; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to Girls on the Run Greater Boston, Inc to provide social-emotional learning and physical activity curriculum to elementary and middle school-aged girls in the cities of Chelsea, Everett and Cambridge and the Charlestown section of the city of Boston”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$225,000”.

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. DiDomenico, Mark, Moore, Eldridge and Payano, Ms. Rausch and Messrs. Gómez and Driscoll moved that the proposed new text be amended in section 2, in item 7010-0005, by adding the following words:-“; provided further, that the department of elementary and secondary education shall collect data on guiding principles and standards of the most current comprehensive health and physical education framework; provided further that, each city, town, regional school district, vocational school district and charter school, in consultation with the department of elementary and secondary education, shall file a biennial report regarding sexual health education, which shall include, but not be limited to: (i) the name and a description of any sexual health education curriculum offered; (ii) the approximate number of hours spent on sexual health education; (iii) the number of students enrolled in sexual health education; (iv) the number of students who withdrew from sexual health education pursuant to section 32A of chapter 71 of the General Laws; and (v) other information as requested by the department of elementary and secondary education pertaining to the guiding principles and standards of the most current comprehensive health and physical education framework; provided further, that said report shall be filed with the board of elementary and secondary education, starting in calendar year 2026 by a date determined by the board; provided further, that data collected under this section be made available to the public on the department’s website; provided further, that data shall be shared with the department of public health within 30 days of the date established by the board for the filing of biennial reports under chapter 69 of the General Laws”.

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The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Kennedy moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$40,000 shall be expended to the city of Worcester for drop-in ESOL classes at the Worcester public library”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$140,000”.

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The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Lovely and Mr. Tarr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to the Essex National Heritage Commission, Inc. for the Teaching Hidden Histories program”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

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The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Gómez and Oliveira moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to the Springfield Day Nursery Corporation in the city of Springfield to support at-risk children, address learning gaps and prepare students for school achievement”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

691

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Friedman moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$115,000 shall be expended for English at Large, Inc. in Woburn for the purposes of English language tutoring and small group instruction”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$215,000”. 695

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Friedman moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$115,000 shall be expended for Arlington Youth Counseling Center, Inc. in the town of Arlington for youth mental health support in Arlington”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$215,000”. 696

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Lovely and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$75,000 shall be expended for LEAP for Education, Inc. to provide middle and high school students with academic enrichment opportunities and post-secondary and career readiness”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$175,000”. 699

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Mark moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for Greenagers, Inc. to provide teen and young adult environmental programming; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to the Mary Lyon Foundation for services and financial support to students and families in Franklin County”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$175,000”. 704

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Mark moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$150,000 shall be expended to Berkshire Educational Resources K-12 to perform regionalization and efficiency work with public school districts in Berkshire county and with the Mohawk Trail regional school district in Franklin county”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$250,000”. 706

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Mark moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for the Railroad Street Youth Project in the town of Great Barrington to support youth-inspired projects”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000”; and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$125,000”. 711

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Mark moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for the Hillcrest Educational Centers, Inc. to provide programs for students with complex psychiatric, behavioral and or developmental disorders, including autism and a variety of high risk behaviors”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”. 713

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Velis moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$15,000 shall be expended for LightHouse Holyoke in the city of Holyoke for a workforce development program”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the 721

following figure:- “\$115,000”.

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Velis moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for Starfires Baseball, LLC in the city of Westfield to establish an educational and workforce development program with Westfield public schools and youth organizations throughout Hampden County”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$125,000”.

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The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Crighton moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for LEAP for Education, Inc. to provide middle and high school students with academic enrichment opportunities and post-secondary and career readiness”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

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The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Crighton, Tarr and Lewis moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_ the following section:-

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“SECTION XX. (a) For the purposes of this section, the word ‘authority’ shall mean the Massachusetts School Building Authority established in section 1A of chapter 70B of the General Laws.

(b) There shall be a special commission to study and make recommendations regarding the: (i) capacity of the authority to meet the needs of current and future school facility projects; and (ii) racial, ethnic, socioeconomic and geographic equity of the grant funding formula to ensure that all communities may participate in the maintenance assessment program established pursuant to section 16 of chapter 70B of the General Laws.

(c) The commission shall consist of: the chairs of the joint committee on education, who shall serve as co-chairs; 1 member to be appointed by the senate president; 1 member to be appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives; 1 member to be appointed by the minority leader of the senate; 1 member to be appointed by the minority leader of the house of representatives; the secretary of education or a designee; the commissioner of elementary and secondary education or a designee; the executive director of the authority or a designee; 2 members to be appointed by the governor, 1 of whom shall be a representative of a gateway city with knowledge of municipal finance and 1 of whom shall be an individual with demonstrated expertise in the design and construction of cost-effective school buildings; 2 members to be appointed by the state treasurer, 1 of whom shall be an individual with demonstrated expertise in the design and construction of green buildings and 1 of whom shall be an individual with demonstrated expertise in public health and indoor environmental quality in school buildings; 1 member representing Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents, Inc.; 1 member representing Massachusetts Association of School Committees, Inc.; 1 member representing Massachusetts Association of Vocational Administrators, Inc.; 1 member representing the Massachusetts chapters of the American Institute for Architects; 1 member representing Massachusetts Facilities Administrators Association, Inc.; 1 member representing the Massachusetts Teachers Association; 1 member representing the American Federation of Teachers, Massachusetts; 1 member representing Massachusetts Taxpayers Foundation, Inc.; 1 member representing Massachusetts Municipal Association, Inc.; and 1 member representing the Massachusetts Building Trades Council.

(d) The commission shall investigate and make recommendations on: (i) the current and future need to renovate and rebuild school facilities, availability of adequate state and local resources and extent to which current state funding for the authority may need to be

adjusted to meet this need; (ii) the authority's existing grant formula and potential modifications to the formula to ensure fairness and equity for all communities; (iii) the alignment of the authority's construction cost reimbursement rate relative to the actual cost of construction and other authority policies that impact eligible project costs for reimbursement; (iv) incentive percentage points, including, but not limited to, how incentive percentage points are calculated for municipalities that qualify for 80 per cent reimbursement; (v) reimbursement policies for regional technical and vocational schools and how to ensure affordability for all member communities; (vi) reimbursement policies to help the commonwealth achieve its environmental and greenhouse gas emissions reductions goals; (vii) reimbursement policies that support healthy school facilities for students and staff; (viii) whether the authority should be authorized to spend money on equipment or be limited to funding education structures; (ix) whether the authority should add incentives for educational spaces approved under chapter 74 of the General Laws in programs that align to labor market demand; (x) strategies for addressing facilities needs of educational collaboratives; and (xi) any other issues affecting the ability of all students to attend school in high quality, accessible, safe, healthy and green school buildings.

(e) The authority and other state agencies shall make available to the commission any documents, data or materials in a timely manner when reasonably requested by the commission. The authority shall provide staff to assist the commission in completing its obligations under this section.

(f) The commission shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the clerks of the senate and house of representatives, the joint committee on education and the senate and house committees on ways and means not later than June 1, 2026."

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. DiDomenico and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section 24 the following section:-

"SECTION 24A. Section 1Q of chapter 69 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by inserting after the word 'System', in line 10, the following words:- 'or other assessment or equivalent alternative as determined by the board'."

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- "; provided further, that not less than \$10,000 shall be expended to the city known as the town of Weymouth to support a cardiopulmonary resuscitation certification program in the Weymouth public schools; provided further, that not less than \$10,000 shall be expended to the city known as the town of Weymouth to support the Weymouth high school rugby program; provided further, that not less than \$10,000 shall be expended to Grad Nite Live, Inc. in the town of Marshfield to support student safety and drug and alcohol free entertainment to local high school seniors"; and by striking out the figure "\$100,000" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$130,000".

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Brady moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7109-0100, by adding the following words:- "; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for the Racial Equity and Justice Institute at Bridgewater state university for the expansion of professional development and consultive supports to aid in the closing of educational achievement gaps in higher education"; and by striking out the figure "\$75,009,161" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$75,109,161".

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Montigny moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- "; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for the New Bedford Youth Court and Fall River Youth Court programs

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in the cities of New Bedford and Fall River to support juvenile diversion programs based on the principles of peer-lead restorative justice”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$200,000”.

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Montigny moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$500,000 shall be expended to the SouthCoast Community Foundation, Inc. to administer a 1-time grant program to provide access to resources for underserved residents in the Greater New Bedford area; provided further, that funds appropriated for the grant program in fiscal year 2023, fiscal year 2024, and fiscal year 2025 shall not revert and shall be made available for the purposes of the program for fiscal year 2026”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$600,000”.

748

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Payano moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$75,000 shall be expended to Si, Se Puede, Inc. for operational and programming costs, to improve youth outcomes in the city of Lawrence”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$175,000”.

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The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Driscoll and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4000-0020, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to Curry College School of Nursing and Health Sciences to promote increased access to quality, equitable healthcare services in the commonwealth through its healthcare workforce development and nursing simulation programs in partnership with hospitals and medical facilities across the commonwealth”; and by striking out the figure “\$1,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$1,050,000”.

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The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Eldridge, Brady, Mark, Gómez, Tarr and Lewis, Ms. Rausch and Messrs. Collins and Driscoll moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section 13 the following section:-

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“SECTION 13A. Section 2XXX of chapter 29 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by inserting after the word ‘modeling’, in line 50, the following words:-‘; state and federal grant application support’.”

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Brownsberger and Ms. Rausch moved that the proposed new text be amended in section 10, in line 106, by inserting after the word “attributes” the following words:- “including, but not limited to, the county and municipality where a project is located”.

763

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Rush, Eldridge, Payano and Fernandes, Ms. Kennedy and Mr. Oliveira moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting the following section:-

768

“SECTION XX. With respect to any claim or cause of action seeking any legal or equitable remedy or relief commenced on or after July 1, 2024 through September 30, 2028, nonprofit institutions of higher education and nonprofit organizations that comprise a health care delivery system shall be immune from liability on any and all such claims alleging that the institution’s or organization’s payment of wages, on a monthly basis or pursuant to any written policy, schedule or agreement presented or made available to an employee concerning payment for work performed over an academic term, violated section 148 of chapter 149 of the General Laws; provided, that earned wages were paid in full within 6 days of the termination of a pay period occurring: (i) on a monthly basis; or (ii) pursuant to any written policy, schedule or agreement presented to an employee concerning payment

for work performed over a specific period or an academic term.”

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Lewis moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_\_\_ the following section:-

777

“SECTION X. Section 34F of chapter 92 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out the first paragraph and inserting in place thereof the following three paragraphs:-

There shall be established and set up on the books of the commonwealth a separate, non-budgeted special revenue fund known as the Middlesex Fells Reservation Fund, which shall be administered by the commissioner of conservation and recreation, who shall consult with relevant stakeholders, including, but not limited to, Friends of the Middlesex Fells Reservation, Inc. and any abutting municipalities. The fund shall be credited with: (i) appropriations or other money authorized or transferred by the general court and specifically designated to be credited to the fund; (ii) funds from public and private sources, including, but not limited to, gifts, grants and donations; (iii) fees generated by permits, licenses, and all other agreements relating to the use of the Middlesex Fells Reservation that are not directed to the General Fund; and (iii) any interest earned on such money.

Amounts credited to the fund shall be expended, without further appropriation, to advance recreational, educational and conservation interests, including, but not limited to, the construction and maintenance of facilities and infrastructure improvements for the area within the Middlesex Fells reservation.

The unexpended balance in the fund at the end of a fiscal year shall remain available for expenditure in subsequent fiscal years and shall not revert to the General Fund. No expenditure made from the fund shall cause the fund to be in deficit at any point.”

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Cronin, Velis, Rush, O'Connor and Montigny moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 1410-0250, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$914,000 shall be expended to the Disabled American Veterans Department of Massachusetts Service Fund, Inc. to combat veterans homelessness by maintaining and operating 3 veterans homes and to provide counseling and benefits, including wrap-around assistance, to disabled veterans and their families”; and by striking out the figure “\$3,992,315” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$4,406,315”.

779

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Cronin moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7004-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$304,000 shall be expended to the city of Fitchburg for downtown housing development”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$404,000”.

780

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Kennedy moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting the following 3 sections:-

783

“SECTION XX. Section 2 of chapter 193 of the acts of 2000, as amended by section 1 of chapter 97 of the acts of 2002, is hereby further amended by striking out the figure ‘45’, each time it appears, and inserting in place thereof, in each instance, the following figure:- ‘40’.

SECTION XY. The second sentence of section 3 of said chapter 193, as so amended, is hereby further amended by striking out the figure ‘180’ and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- ‘187’.

SECTION XZ. Said second sentence of said section 3 of said chapter 193, as so amended, is hereby further amended by striking out the figure ‘81’ and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- ‘75’.”

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Kennedy moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section 19 the following sections:-

“SECTION 19A. Section 4E of chapter 40 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by inserting after the word ‘schools’, in line 25, the following words:- ‘or commonwealth virtual schools established pursuant to section 94 of chapter 71.’; and

By inserting after section 22 the following section:-

“SECTION 22A. Section 94 of chapter 71 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the word ‘schools’, in line 20, the following words:- ‘or commonwealth virtual schools’.”

The amendment was adopted.

**As previously stated, the above amendments were considered as one and adopted.**

Ms. Rausch, Mr. O'Connor and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-0005, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended to expand advanced placement course offerings through innovative delivery models for high school students in the commonwealth”; and by striking out the figure “\$13,421,738” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$13,521,738”.

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Mr. Moore moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$80,000 shall be provided to the Worcester Regional Strategic Opportunities Foundation, Inc., doing business as the Worcester Regional Chamber of Commerce, to host, and provide necessary travel to and from, events and workshops for students on high-priority industries and career paths”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$180,000”.

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Ms. Lovely, Ms. Rausch, Messrs. Montigny and Gómez, Ms. Miranda and Messrs. Mark, Lewis, Oliveira, Eldridge, Keenan, Payano, Brady and Collins moved that the proposed new text be amended in section 2, by inserting after item 7066-9600 the following item:-

“7100-4003 For the department of higher education to support a hunger-free campus initiative to address food insecurity at 2- and 4-year public institutions of higher learning and higher education institutions in the commonwealth that have been shown to primarily enroll historically underrepresented groups as determined by the department of higher education; provided, that the department shall award grants to campuses that: (i) maximize student enrollment in federal nutrition benefit programs; (ii) promote on-campus grocers that accept nutrition program benefits; (iii) increase access to available meal cards and meal swipe options, where feasible; (iv) maximize student access to on-campus or area food pantries in collaboration with regional food banks; and (v) support other campus-designed projects to address college student food insecurity; provided further, that prior to awarding grants under this item, the department shall issue a request for proposal through which colleges may apply and make grant awards based on the demonstrated need and a proposed implementation plan submitted by each applicant; provided further, that not later than 45 days after the passage of this act , the department shall issue a request for proposals to eligible public institutions; and provided further, that not later than 90 days after the passage of this act, the department shall submit to the house and senate committees on ways and means, the joint committee on higher education and the clerks of the house of representatives and the senate a report detailing a list of grantees and the grant amount distributed to each

grantee..... \$500,000”.

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Ms. Lovely and Messrs. Mark, Tarr, Velis and Montigny moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4590-1507, by striking out the figure “\$1,800,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$2,500,000”; and by striking out the figure “\$7,200,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$7,900,000”.

693

After remarks, the question on adoption of the amendment was determined by a call of the yeas and nays at twenty-nine minutes before eight o’clock P.M., on motion of Ms. Lovely, as follows, to wit (yeas 39 – nays 0) **[Yeas and Nays No. 32]:**

**YEAS.**

Barrett, Michael J.	Gómez, Adam
Brady, Michael D.	Jehlen, Patricia D.
Brownsberger, William N.	Keenan, John F.
Collins, Nick	Kennedy, Edward J.
Comerford, Joanne M.	Kennedy, Robyn K.
Creem, Cynthia Stone	Lewis, Jason M.
Crighton, Brendan P.	Lovely, Joan B.
Cronin, John J.	Mark, Paul W.
Cyr, Julian	Miranda, Liz
DiDomenico, Sal N.	Montigny, Mark C.
Dooner, Kelly A.	Moore, Michael O.
Driscoll, Jr., William J.	O'Connor, Patrick M.
Durant, Peter J.	Oliveira, Jacob R.
Edwards, Lydia	Payano, Pavel
Eldridge, James B.	Rausch, Rebecca L.
Fattman, Ryan C.	Rodrigues, Michael J.
Feeney, Paul R.	Rush, Michael F.
Fernandes, Dylan A.	Tarr, Bruce E.
Finegold, Barry R.	Velis, John C. – <b>39.</b>
Friedman, Cindy F.	

**NAYS – 0.**

The yeas and nays having been completed at twenty-four minutes before eight o’clock P.M., the amendment was adopted.

Ms. Friedman and Mr. Payano moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7035-0002, by striking out the words “provided further, that funds may be expended on phase 2 pay-for-performance contracts based on outcomes-based contract measuring and funding services that result in employment and wage gains and that require bridge funding while final performance results are being analyzed” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- “provided further, that not less than \$10,000,000 shall be expended to reduce the waitlist for English for speakers of other languages that is focused on training workers with the English language skills needed to fill in-demand jobs; provided further, that in determining a process for awarding grants, the Workforce Skills Cabinet shall create procurement requirements including, but not limited to, setting outcome metrics, measurement strategies, and provider payments”.

702

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Mark, Eldridge, Cronin, Oliveira and Cyr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7061-9813, by striking out the figure “\$16,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$25,000,000”.

703

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Crighton, Mark, Payano, O'Connor, Cronin and Driscoll moved that the

724

proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7061-9611, by striking out the figure “\$7,522,449” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$10,522,449”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Crighton, Ms. Kennedy, Messrs. Mark, Brady, Oliveira, Payano, Fernandes, Finegold, Velis, Kennedy, O'Connor and Eldridge and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7100-4002, by inserting after the word “months” the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$1,000,000 shall be expended on a pilot program to create an Accelerated Study in Associate Programs model at the community colleges, which shall include both full-time and part-time students”; and by striking out the figure “\$16,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$18,000,000”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Crighton moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to The REAL Program, Inc. in the city of Lynn for early education programming”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Crighton moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for La Vida, Inc. for the La Vida Scholars program in the city of Lynn”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Velis, Eldridge and Keenan, Ms. Edwards and Messrs. Collins and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$500,000 shall be expended to the Behavioral Health Integrated Resources for Children (BIRCh) Project to continue the operations of the school-based behavioral health technical assistance center”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$600,000”.

The amendment was *adopted*.

Ms. Edwards and Messrs. Mark, Keenan and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$1,500,000 shall be expended for The United States of Readers program, administered by Scholastic Book Clubs, to bridge the literacy gap through increased book access in Title 1 elementary schools in the commonwealth”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$1,600,000”.

The amendment was *adopted*.

Mr. Crighton moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_\_ the following section:-

“SECTION XX. Section 23 of chapter 32 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2020 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting, in line 201, after the words ‘representative of a public safety union’ the following words:- ‘from a list of 3 candidates nominated by the executive board of the Massachusetts Association of Contributory Retirement Systems, Inc. who shall be a member of the state employees’ retirement system, the teachers’ retirement system, or any other retirement system that has been vested in the PRIT Fund’.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Miranda, Ms. Kennedy and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting the following section:-



“SECTION X. The superintendent of the bureau of the state house shall, subject to the approval of the art commission as to size and content, install and maintain a commemorative memorial portrait in the Massachusetts State House in honor of State Representative Doris Bunte in a suitable space in the Massachusetts State House. In determining the location of such portrait, said commission shall consult with the house committee on rules, the Massachusetts Black and Latino Legislative Caucus, and shall cause said memorial to be officially installed in the Massachusetts State House.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Montigny moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following sections:-

804

“SECTION X. Section 6 of chapter 64H is hereby amended by striking the words ‘or television transmission’ in each instance.

SECTION XX. Said section 6 of chapter 64H is hereby amended by inserting at the end thereof the following subsection:-

(yy) Rental or sales of devices used directly for the operation of commercial television transmission, including but not limited to cable television conversion boxes that (i) receive programming or information from the cable provider, (ii) implement parental controls, (iii) schedule, record, locally store and play back recorded content for later viewing, (iv) access or run software applications such as web-based content streaming services, games, productivity tools, or other non-television applications, or (v) transmit recorded content to a smartphone or tablet or access recorded content from another digital video recorder.”

After remarks, the amendment was *rejected*.

Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section the following section:

745

“SECTION \_\_. (a) There shall be a task force on vocational-technical education program admissions to examine and make recommendations on: (i) admissions policies pursuant to chapter 74 of the General Laws; (ii) the collection, dissemination and analysis of district-level and statewide data on vocational-technical education program admissions and waitlists for programs pursuant to said chapter 74; and (iii) the standard for review and enforcement of the policies pursuant to clause (i) and data collected, disseminated and analyzed pursuant to clause (ii).

(b) The task force shall consist of the following 15 members: the chairs of the joint committee on education, who shall serve as co-chairs; the chairs of the joint committee on labor and workforce development; a member of the house of representatives appointed by the house minority leader; a member of the senate appointed by the senate minority leader; 1 member of the gateway cities legislative caucus; the commissioner of elementary and secondary education or a designee; 1 member of the Massachusetts Association of Vocational Administrators; 1 member of the Alliance for Vocational Technical Education; 1 member of the Massachusetts Career & Technical Educators Organization; 1 member of the Massachusetts Association of School Committees; 1 member of the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents; 1 member of the Massachusetts Association of Regional Schools; and 1 member of the Massachusetts Municipal Association.

(c) The first meeting of the task force shall take place not later than September 15, 2025. The task force shall conduct at least 1 public hearing to receive testimony from members of the public. Not later than September 15, 2026, the task force shall file a report containing its findings and recommendations, including legislative recommendations, if any, with the clerks of the house of representatives and the senate and the house and senate committees on ways and means.”

After remarks, the amendment was *rejected*.

*Recess.*

At six minutes before eight o'clock P.M, the Chair (Ms. Creem) declared a recess until the following day at ten o'clock A.M.

Recess.

*Recess in Memory of Francis P. Staffier.*

The Senator from Plymouth and Norfolk, Mr. Brady moved that when the Senate recess today it do so in memory of Francis P. Staffier.

Francis (Frank) P. Staffier, 87, was born in 1937 to Rose Staffier (Cardinale) and Francis Staffier in East Boston. Frank attended East Boston schools and joined the United States Marine Corps in 1957. Frank proudly served overseas, stationed in Germany and Italy.

After his service in the Corps, Frank moved to Florida, then returned home to Massachusetts, meeting the love of his life in 1967 (more on that later). Frank worked his entire life, primarily in the shoe industry. He transitioned from Retail sales to Wholesale later in his career. Later in life he worked for the Mass Turnpike Authority and was a Race Announcer at Raynham Dog Track. Frank ended his working life as the Starter at President's Golf Course in Quincy.

Frank belonged to a number of social clubs including the Lions Club, the VFW and was a 41-year member of the Randolph Elks. He was a loyal and active Elk, holding numerous positions on a variety of levels. He served as Exalted Ruler of the Randolph Lodge in 1982-1983, State Trustee, as District Deputy of the Grand Exalted Ruler in 1986, and was chosen as the Massachusetts State Association Elk of the Year in 2014, the year he served as State Chaplain. Perhaps Frank's proudest accomplishment as an Elk was the creation of the 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony at the Randolph Elks in 2002, which has been Nationally recognized and continues to this day.

Frank was actively involved with and very proud of his work for the town of Avon, where he served the community for over 38 years in various roles. These ranged from being a member of the Redevelopment Authority, a Constable, Emergency Management and Veteran's Commissions, the Cable TV Advisory Board, Selectman and he served over 30 years as the Town Moderator. He was the appointed delegate from Avon to the Old Colony Planning Council for over 21 years, still active at the time of his death, tirelessly advocating for projects that would benefit Avon and its residents.

Frank enjoyed Live music shows (his favorites being Bowser from Sha-Na-Na and ABBA), vacationing and traveling with The Avon 10. When traveling to numerous Elks' conventions with fellow Elks, he is fondly remembered as "The Cruise Director", especially when it came to finding the best restaurants, food being another of his great passions.

Frank is survived by his son Robert Cristello and wife Cara of Rutland, Vermont, daughter Jennifer Noel and her husband Sean of Raynham, son Derek Staffier and his wife Virginia of Avon, son Craig Staffier of Brockton, and his beloved wife of 56 years, Carol Staffier (Jermyn) of Avon. He is also survived by his three Grandchildren, Matthew Noel of Taunton, Michael Noel and his wife Amelia of Norwood, and Kayleigh Cristello of Rutland, VT., and his two Great Granddaughters, Adelaide and Sutton Noel. He is further survived by his two brothers, Thomas Farmer and his wife Theresa of Randolph and James Farmer and his wife Donna, as well as many beloved Nieces and Nephews.

Frank was predeceased by his brother Donald Farmer, and two of his Grandchildren, Anthony Cristello and Meghan Noel.

*Adjournment in Memory of John Andrew Childs.*

The Senator from the Cape and Islands, Mr. Cyr, moved that when the Senate recess today, it do so in the memory of John Andrew Childs, of Boston, Massachusetts, who passed away on December 27, 2024, at the age of 36.

Known to all as Andrew, he was born on July 15, 1988, in Greenville, South Carolina. Andrew's life was defined by deep intellect, compassion, and a quiet determination to understand and uplift the world around him. A proud graduate of Clemson University, he went on to earn a master's degree in computer science from the University of Massachusetts Boston. He built a career in computer software design, where his creativity and technical acumen left a lasting impression on his colleagues and the products he helped bring to life.

Beyond his professional achievements, Andrew found community and joy through music as a member of the Boston Gay Men's Chorus. His love for running, working out, dancing, and, more recently, volleyball reflected a full and active life, lived in motion and harmony. Through Stonewall Sports, he not only discovered a passion for volleyball, but also found a chosen family and a vibrant community that embraced him wholeheartedly.

Andrew was a generous, thoughtful soul—known for his humor, kindness, and ability to listen deeply. His family remembers him as a peacemaker whose presence fostered healing and growth. His friends knew him as someone who approached the world with quiet reflection and sincere empathy.

Andrew is lovingly remembered by his stepmother, Susan Childs; his brother, David Childs, and sister-in-law, Kaeley Childs; his stepsister, Rachel Chigges, and her husband, Nick Chigges; and his grandmothers, Dorothy Jaggars Childs of Tennessee and Opal Phillips Johnson. He was a cherished uncle to Mason, Gabriel, Olivia, Silas, Elijah, Emma, and Lucy Kate.

Today, the Senate honors the life of Andrew Childs—a brilliant mind, a gentle heart, and a beloved son, brother, uncle, and friend. May his memory continue to inspire kindness, curiosity, and understanding in all of us.

Accordingly, as a mark of respect to the memory of John Andrew Childs, at six minutes before eight o'clock P.M., on motion of Ms. Comerford, the Senate recessed to meet again tomorrow at ten o'clock A.M.

Wednesday, May 21, 2025  
[being the legislative session of Tuesday, May 20, 2025.]

Met at twenty-three minutes before eleven o'clock A.M. (Mr. Brownsberger in the Chair).

The Chair (Mr. Brownsberger) then recited the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

There being no object, the following guests were introduced:

The Chair (Mr. Brownsberger) introduced Mr. Rodriguez for the purpose of an introduction. Mr. Rodriguez is a group of AP students from BMC Durfee Vocational Technical High School in Fall River. The Chair welcomed them with applause.

The Chair (Mr. Brownsberger) introduced Mr. DiDomenico for the purpose of an introduction. Mr. DiDomenico is a member of the Chamber, the Everett High School Percussion Ensemble was recognized for winning the state championship title. They were accompanied by Superintendent John Lynch, Everett School Committee members Sam Cornelio, Everett Teachers Association member Kim Auger, music coordinator Eugene O'Brien and teachers: Mark Sachetta, Brian Spencer, Samantha Logan, Ryan Enos, George Spencer and Ceara Somerville. The group was applauded for their accomplishments and they withdrew from the Chamber.

The Chair (Mr. Brownsberger) handed the gavel to Ms. Miranda and Mr. Collins for the purpose of an introduction. Ms. Miranda and Mr. Collins then introduced, in the rear of the Chamber, the Cathedral High School girls basketball team. The Lady Panthers were recognized for winning the MIAA Division 4 state championship title for the third consecutive year in a row. The team ended their season with a 19-5 record, beating South Hadley in a victory of 68-37 to win the title. They were led by Coaches Clinton Lassiter, Shanika Smart, Dashawn Oliver and Steve Schlehuber. Coach Lassiter was recognized for having led the Lady Panthers to seven state titles in the past ten years. The Senate applauded their accomplishments and they withdrew from the Chamber.

The Chair (Mr. Brownsberger) handed the gavel to Ms. Miranda for the purpose of an introduction. Ms. Miranda then introduced, in the rear of the Chamber, Rob "ProBlak" Gibbs, a visionary artist, educator and community leader from Roxbury. Mr. Gibbs was recognized for his public art exhibits, the opening of his first solo exhibition and residency *Deep Breath & Count to Seven*, and his mural series *Breathe Life*. The Senate welcomed him with applause and he withdrew from the Chamber.

The Chair (Mr. Brownsberger) handed the gavel to Mr. Cyr for the purpose of an introduction. Mr. Cyr then introduced, in the rear of the Chamber, the Nauset Regional High School boys hockey team. The team was recognized for winning the MIAA Division 3 state championship title. The Warriors defeated Medfield High School with a score of 4-1, marking the team's first-ever state title. The team was accompanied by Coaches

BMC Durfee High School and Diman Regional Vocational Technical High School.  
Everett High School Percussion Ensemble.

Cathedral High School girls basketball team.

Rob "ProBlak" Gibbs.

Nauset Regional High School boys hockey team.

Brendan Brickley and Connor Brickley. The Senate applauded their accomplishments and they withdrew from the Chamber.

The Chair (Ms. Creem) handed the gavel to Ms. Miranda for the purpose of an introduction. Ms. Miranda then introduced, in the rear of the Chamber, the 2025 Youth of the Year honorees from the Boys and Girls Clubs of Boston. This group of exceptional young leaders represent the very best of the Commonwealth's future. Since 1947, the Youth of the Year program has celebrated not only academic success, but also character, service, and leadership. These young people are role models in their schools, neighborhoods, and beyond. The Senate welcomed them with applause and they withdrew from the Chamber.

The Chair (Ms. Creem) introduced, on the Rostrum, former Massachusetts Governor Michael Dukakis and his son, John. Governor Dukakis was visiting the State House as the Senate recessed in memory of his late wife, Katherine "Kitty" Dukakis, who passed away on March 21, 2025. The Senate welcomed them with applause and they withdrew from the Chamber.

Boys and Girls  
Clubs of Boston.

Governor Michael  
Dukakis.

*Communication.*

Communication from the Honorable, Bruce E. Tarr, Minority Leader, announcing the appointment of Senator Peter Durant (pursuant to Chapter 3 of the Acts of 2016) to the special commission on local and regional public health (received May 20, 2025),-- **was placed on file.**

Local and Regional  
Public Health  
Commission,--  
appointment.

*Reports.*

The following reports were severally received and placed on file, to wit:

Report of the Department of Public Health (pursuant to 105 CMR 451.403) submitting the inspection report for the Dartmouth Women's Center, the Plan of Correction (POC) from the facility and the POC acceptance letter from the Division of Environmental Health Regulations and Standards (EHRS) (received May 21, 2025);

Report of the Department of Public Health (pursuant to 105 CMR 451.403) submitting the inspection report for the Bristol County Modular Building, the Plan of Correction (POC) from the facility and the POC acceptance letter from the Division of Environmental Health Regulations and Standards (EHRS) (received May 21, 2025);

Report of the Department of Public Health (pursuant to 105 CMR 451.403) submitting the inspection report for Bristol County Jail and House of Correction, the Plan of Correction (POC) from the facility and the POC acceptance letter from the Division of Environmental Health Regulations and Standards (EHRS) (received May 21, 2025);

Report of the Office of the Comptroller (pursuant to line item 1595-4512 of Section 2E of Chapter 140 of the Acts of 2024) submitting its Behavioral Health Outreach Access and Support Trust Fund Transfer Schedule 2025 report (a copy having been forwarded to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means) (received May 21, 2025); and

Report of the Department of Public Health (pursuant to 105 CMR 451.403) submitting the inspection report for Essex County Correctional Alternative Center, Lawrence, the Plan of Correction (POC) from the facility and the POC acceptance letter from the Division of Environmental Health Regulations and Standards (EHRS) (received May 21, 2025).

DPH,-- Dartmouth  
Women's Center  
Inspection report.  
SD2918

DPH,-- Bristol  
County Modular  
Building Inspection  
report.  
SD2919

DPH,-- Bristol  
County Jail  
Inspection report.  
SD2920

Behavioral Health  
Support Trust Fund  
2025 report.  
SD2922

DPH,-- Essex  
County Correctional  
Center Inspection  
report.  
SD2924

*Petitions.*

Petitions were severally presented and referred as follows:

By Mrs. Dooner, a petition (accompanied by bill) (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Kelly A. Dooner for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Gregory Baker, an employee of the Suffolk County Sheriff's office;

By Mr. Durant, a petition (accompanied by bill) (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Peter J.

Gregory Baker,--  
sick leave.  
SD2915

Emily Coollick,--



Durant and Donald R. Berthiaume, Jr. for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Emily Coollick;

sick leave.  
SD2921

By Ms. Edwards, a petition (accompanied by bill) (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Lydia Edwards for legislation to protect accessory dwelling units; and

Accessory dwelling  
units,-- protection.  
SD2904

By Mr. Fattman (by request), a petition (accompanied by bill) (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Thomas Button for legislation relative to retirement pension notarizations;

Pension,--  
notarization.  
SD2916

**Severally, under Senate Rule 20, to the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.**

*Orders of the Day.*

The Orders of the Day were further considered as follows:

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. 4001),-- was further considered, the main question being on ordering the bill to a third reading.

General  
appropriations bill.

**There being no objection, the following amendments were considered as one, and adopted as follows:**

Mr. Durant moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 1599-0026, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended to the town of Spencer for the repair and repaving of East Charlton road”; and by striking out the figure “\$10,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$10,100,000”.

819

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Collins moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section 69 the following section:-

822

“SECTION 69A. The special commission established in section 53 of chapter 176 of the acts of 2022 is hereby revived and continued and shall file its final report not later than June 1, 2026.”

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Collins moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section 69, the following section:-

823

“SECTION 69A. The special commission established in section 52 of chapter 176 of the acts of 2022 is hereby revived and continued and shall file its final report not later than June 1, 2026.”

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Finegold moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$20,000 shall be expended to the city of Amesbury for a study of current city-wide parking space availability and for planning costs related to the development of a new parking garage”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$120,000”.

825

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Finegold moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to the town of Wilmington for traffic signalization and pedestrian safety improvements”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

827

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Collins moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2E, in item 1595-

828

6369, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended to the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority police department for additional dedicated patrols at train stations along the orange line, red line and commuter rail within the First Suffolk”; and by striking out the figure “\$500,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$500,100,000”.

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Barrett moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2E, in item 1595-6368, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to the town of Lexington for the Rev Shuttle commuter service”; and by striking out the figure “\$572,620,163” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$572,670,163”.

830

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Crighton and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2E, in item 1595-6369, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for a public awareness campaign to be administered by the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority, in consultation with municipalities and community-based organizations, to promote awareness of and increase participation in the income-eligible reduced fare program”; and by striking out the figure “\$500,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$500,100,000”.

833

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Montigny moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for Bridgewater state university, in collaboration with the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority, for a reduced fare pilot program for student semester commuter rail passes along the South Coast rail corridor, also known as the Fall River/New Bedford line; provided further, that the pilot program shall be implemented for the 2025-2026 academic year and provide a reduced fare equal to 50 per cent of the standard fare for students enrolled at the university who reside within a municipality that abuts the South Coast rail corridor, including, but not limited to, the cities of New Bedford, Fall River and Taunton and the towns of Acushnet, Berkley, Dartmouth, Fairhaven, Freetown, Lakeville, Mattapoisett, Middleborough, Rochester, Somerset and Westport; provided further, that the university shall prioritize student financial need in its distribution of reduced fare passes; provided further, that not later than June 30, 2026, the university shall submit a report to the house and senate committees on ways and means detailing the total number of reduced fare student passes distributed for the program, delineated by city or town of residence and the total costs incurred to implement the program”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

835

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Cyr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2E, in item 1595-6368, by adding the following words:-“; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to Helping Our Women, Inc. for micro-transit program support”; and by striking out the figure “\$572,620,163” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$572,670,163”.

836

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Creem, Ms. Rausch and Messrs. Gómez, Eldridge and Keenan moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 0337-0002, by adding the following words:- “; provided, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for One Can Help, Inc. for the purpose of providing assistance and resources for families in juvenile courts statewide”; and by striking out the figure “\$27,679,013” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$27,729,013”.

845

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Fernandes and O'Connor and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended in section 5, by striking out, in line 14, the words "Berkshire, Bristol, Hampden, Hampshire, Franklin or Worcester" and inserting in place thereof the following words:- "Barnstable, Berkshire, Bristol, Franklin, Hampden, Hampshire, Plymouth or Worcester". 849

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Jehlen and Ms. Miranda moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 0321-2200, by striking the figure "\$250,000" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$350,000". 851

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Mark moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8910-0145, by adding the following words:- "; provided further, that not less than \$200,000 shall be expended for the Berkshire county opioid education and awareness task force"; and by striking out the figure "\$21,259,340" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$21,459,340". 861

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Mark moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 0340-0600, by adding the following words:- "; provided further, that not less than \$150,000 shall be expended for the Opioid Task Force of Franklin County and the North Quabbin Region"; and by striking out the figure "\$10,100,676" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$10,250,676". 862

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Edwards, Messrs. Velis, O'Connor and Payano, Ms. Lovely, Mr. Keenan and Ms. Creem moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 0330-0300, by striking out the figure \$358,597,713 and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$365,833,714". 864

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Brownsberger, Ms. Miranda and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8000-0655, by inserting the following words:- "; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for the development of an emerging adult community supervision framework in coordination with the executive office of public safety and security and justice system partners"; and by striking out the figure "\$7,000,000" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$7,025,000". 875

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Creem and Messrs. Velis, Tarr and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8000-1127, by striking out the figure "\$300,000" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$500,000"; and by striking out the figure "\$5,000,000" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$5,200,000". 879

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Durant moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8000-0313, by adding the following words:- "; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for the Ware River Valley Domestic Violence Task Force in the town of Ware"; and by striking out the figure "\$100,000" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$125,000". 880

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Durant moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8000-0313, by adding the following words:- "; provided further, that not less than \$75,000 shall be expended for the purpose of project management, site planning and design work for a new police and fire station as part of a municipal complex in the town of Westminster"; and by striking out the figure "\$100,000" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$175,000". 881

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Durant moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8000-0313, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$35,000 shall be expended for the purpose of upgrades to the police station in the town of West Brookfield”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$135,000”. 882

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Durant moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8000-0313, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended to make repairs to the hydrant system in the town of Hardwick”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$200,000”. 883

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Rush moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8000-0313, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended to BlueForce Strategies Inc. to provide law enforcement organizations in the commonwealth with no-cost training in areas such as de-escalation, stress mitigation and management through its Community First Project”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$200,000”. 885

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Rush moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8324-0050, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for the design and feasibility analysis of a new fire substation in the town of Walpole”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$200,000”. 886

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Moore moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8000-0313, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$35,000 shall be expended to the town of Shrewsbury for the purchase of a search and rescue vehicle; provided further, that not less than \$12,000 shall be expended to the town of Shrewsbury for electronic voting equipment”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$147,000”. 888

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Moore moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8324-0050, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$35,000 shall be expended to the Westborough Fire Department for the purchase of emergency medical services equipment and supplies”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$135,000”. 889

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Moore moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8000-0313, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$21,000 shall be expended for the operations of the Worcester court appointed special advocates program”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$121,000”. 891

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Finegold moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8000-0313, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for the purchase of, or reimbursement of the purchase of, soft shell helmet covers or other related safety equipment for youth football teams up to and including high school in the cities of Amesbury and Haverhill and the towns of Andover, Merrimac, North Andover, Tewksbury and Wilmington”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$200,000”. 895

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Cronin moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8000-0313, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$16,000 shall be expended to the Shirley Police Department for the purchase of a drone and supportive equipment”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$116,000”.

896

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Collins moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8100-1001, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$400,000 shall be expended to the department of state police Troop H for capital expenditures and to conduct dedicated patrols along the Southwest Corridor park in the Back Bay section of the city of Boston and the Old Harbor reservation areas in the South Boston and Dorchester sections of the city of Boston; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 of said \$400,000 shall be expended for dedicated patrols by the department of state police marine unit; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 of said \$400,000 shall be expended for dedicated patrols by the department of state police mounted unit; provided further, that a seasonal office trailer and satellite barn shall be acquired and maintained by the department from Memorial Day to Labor Day, inclusive, at Castle Island in the South Boston section of the city of Boston”; and by striking out the figure “\$403,696,893” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$404,096,893”.

899

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Fattman moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8000-0313, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$40,000 shall be expended to the Sutton police department for costs associated with the unmanned aircraft system program”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$140,000”.

901

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Fattman moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8000-0313, by adding the following words:- “provided further, that not less than \$80,000 shall be expended to the town of Wales for the purchase of a rubber track excavator”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$180,000”.

906

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Miranda moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8000-0313, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to Compete with Purpose, Inc. for the Score4More, Inc.’s annual Save R Streets event, a 2-day basketball tournament and peace weekend aimed at reducing violence in the city of Boston”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

907

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Velis moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8000-0313, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$30,000 shall be expended for the Holyoke police department to purchase gym equipment; provided further, that not less than \$20,000 shall be expended for the Holyoke auxiliary traffic division of the Holyoke police department to purchase safety and police equipment”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

915

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Crighton moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8000-0313, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$35,000 shall be expended to the town of Marblehead for upgrades to the Marblehead Police Department’s duty firearms, including replacement sidearms and red-dot sighting systems”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:-

916



“\$135,000”.

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Montigny and O'Connor and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8000-0313, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$175,000 shall be expended to the Southeastern Massachusetts Law Enforcement Council, Incorporated to provide law enforcement officers with access to critical incident stress management and peer support programs”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$275,000”.

920

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Brady moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8000-0313, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to the East Bridgewater Police drone program in the town of East Bridgewater”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$125,000”.

921

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Brady moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8324-0050, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$10,000 shall be expended to the East Bridgewater Fire Department for Digital Radio pagers in the town of East Bridgewater”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$110,000”.

922

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Oliveira moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8324-0050, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to the South Hadley Fire Department District 1 for radio and communications upgrades and improvements”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

926

The amendment was adopted.

Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8000-0313, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$15,000 shall be expended to the Seekonk police department for the purchase of body-worn cameras”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$115,000”.

927

The amendment was adopted.

Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8000-0313, by inserting the following:- “; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for the creation of a Community Action Response Team in the town of Wareham to support proactive crime prevention and community engagement”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$200,000”.

928

The amendment was adopted.

Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8324-0050, by inserting the following:- “; provided further, that not less than \$15,000 shall be expended to support firefighter equipment upgrades in the town of Berkley”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$115,000”.

929

The amendment was adopted.

Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8324-0050, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for the purchase of utility task vehicles for the Seekonk Fire Department”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

930

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Eldridge moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 1599-

937

0026, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended to the town of Boxborough for the purchase and installation of an emergency generator at the Boxborough Public Library”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$200,000”.

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Eldridge moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 1599-0026, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended to the town of Harvard for improvements to the Old Library building”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$200,000”.

938

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Creem moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section 70 the following section:-

940

“SECTION 70A. Item 1599-0026 of section 2 of chapter 140 of the acts of 2024 is hereby amended by inserting after the word ‘Wellesley’ the following words:- ‘and such funds shall be made available until June 30, 2026’.”

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Keenan, Collins and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8324-0050, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$30,000 shall be expended to South Shore regional vocational technical high school in the town of Hanover for its firefighter cadet program”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$130,000”.

941

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Keenan moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$5,000 shall be expended to the Winthrop Congregational Church in the town of Holbrook for purposes including, but not limited to, recreational equipment and programming at the youth community center publicly available to the youth of the local community; provided further, that not less than \$20,000 shall be expended to the town of Hanover for a summer intern program”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$125,000”.

942

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Keenan moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$8,000 shall be expended to the Abington public library for purposes including, but not limited to, equipment, materials and programming; provided further, that not less than \$8,000 shall be expended to the Thayer public library in the city known as the town of Braintree for purposes including, but not limited to, equipment, materials and programming; provided further, that not less than \$8,000 shall be expended to the John Curtis free library in the town of Hanover for purposes including, but not limited to, equipment, materials and programming; provided further, that not less than \$8,000 shall be expended to the Holbrook public library for purposes including, but not limited to, equipment, materials and programming; provided further, that not less than \$10,000 shall be expended to the Thomas Crane public library in the city of Quincy for purposes including, but not limited to, equipment, materials and programming; provided further, that not less than \$8,000 shall be expended to the Rockland memorial library for purposes including, but not limited to, equipment, materials and programming”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

943

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Keenan moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8324-0050, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall

944

be expended to the Quincy fire department for communications infrastructure”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Keenan moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 9110-9002, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$15,000 shall be expended to the council on aging in the town of Abington for programming and services; provided further, that not less than \$15,000 shall be expended to the department of elder affairs in the city known as the town of Braintree for programming and services; provided further, that not less than \$15,000 shall be expended to the council on aging in the town of Hanover for programming and services; provided further, that not less than \$30,000 shall be expended to the council on aging in the town of Holbrook for programming and services; provided further, that not less than \$40,000 shall be expended to the department of elder affairs in the city of Quincy for programming and services; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to the council on aging in the town of Rockland for programming and services”; and by striking out the figure:- “\$29,522,592” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$29,662,592”.

945

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Rush moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 1599-0026, by adding the following:- “; provided further, that not less than \$15,000 shall be expended to Morrill memorial library in the town of Norwood for the installation of a study pod to support individual and group learning spaces”; and by striking out the figure “\$10,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$10,015,000”.

948

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Rush moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 1599-0026, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to the town of Westwood for capital improvements to town facilities to help bring the town into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act”; and by striking out the figure “\$10,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$10,050,000”.

950

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Fernandes moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8324-0050, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$10,000 shall be expended to the Sandwich fire department peer support team for its operations and training for its team members”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$110,000”.

952

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Finegold moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 1599-0026, by inserting after the words “through the District Local Technical Assistance Fund” the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$40,000 shall be expended to the city of Amesbury for costs associated with the digitization and preservation of municipal documents”; and by striking out the figure “\$10,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$10,040,000”.

965

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Finegold and Tarr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 1599-0026, by inserting after the words “through the District Local Technical Assistance Fund” the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$15,000 shall be expended for accessibility improvements at North Andover town hall”; and by striking out the figure “\$10,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$10,015,000”.

966

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Finegold and Tarr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 1410-1616, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to the town of North Andover for the creation of a 9/11 memorial at Patriots Memorial Park”; and by striking out the figure “\$250,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “275,000”. 967

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Rausch moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to the Dover-Sherborn Regional Public School District to create a collaborative makerspace lab for students and provide related professional development for educators”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”. 969

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Rausch moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for the 250th anniversary celebration in the city known as the town of Franklin”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”. 970

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Rausch moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to the Bellforge Arts Center in the town of Medfield for a summer sounds concert series”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”. 972

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Rausch moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for renovations and improvements to the Milford Town Park in the town of Milford”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$125,000”. 973

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Rausch moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8000-0313, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$65,000 shall be expended for a critical incident response and community outreach truck in the police department in the town of Millis”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$165,000”. 974

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Rausch moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$70,000 shall be expended for an electric vehicle for the assessing department in the town of Needham”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$170,000”. 975

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Rausch moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 1599-0026, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$35,000 shall be expended for emergency access poles with AEDs at athletic field complexes in the town of Norfolk; provided further, that not less than \$15,000 shall be expended for senior center parking lot improvements in the town of Norfolk”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”. 976

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Rausch moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8000- 977

0313, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for radios in the police department in the town of Plainville”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$125,000”.

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Rausch moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for furniture, layout, and technology upgrades at the Fiske Public Library in the town of Wrentham”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

979

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Finegold moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for repairs and renovations to the roof of Tewksbury public library”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$125,000”.

980

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Rausch moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 1599-0026, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$65,000 shall be expended for senior center parking lot improvements in the town of Bellingham”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$165,000”.

981

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Cronin moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended to Sholan Farms in the city of Leominster for on-farm infrastructure, land management, and maintenance costs”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$200,000”.

982

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Cronin moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2511-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry, Inc. for transportation vehicles to combat food insecurity in the community”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

983

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Barrett moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2511-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$45,000 shall be expended for the food pantry run by the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul located behind Saint Joseph church in the town of Lincoln”; and by striking out the figure “100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “145,000”.

984

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Jehlen moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$35,000 shall be expended to Medford public schools for the purchase and installation of a theater sound system at Medford high school”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$135,000”.

985

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Jehlen and Mr. Driscoll moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7004-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$200,000 shall be expended to the city of Somerville to continue the short-term housing bridge pilot program established under item 7004-0107 of chapter 140 of the acts of 2024 to facilitate interim housing stability for individuals applying for more affordable permanent

986



housing situations; provided further, that eligibility for the pilot program shall include households with individuals: (i) age 60 or older residing in the city of Somerville, who are otherwise eligible for housing under item 7004-9005 or item 7004-9024; (ii) with incomes not more than 80 per cent of the area median income; and (iii) at risk of eviction due to their inability to consistently pay rent; provided further, that households participating in the pilot program shall not, while receiving such assistance, be required to pay more than 30 per cent of their monthly adjusted income for rent; provided further, that the executive office of housing and livable communities shall conduct a study to examine the feasibility and benefits of expanding the short-term housing bridge pilot program statewide; provided further, that not later than June 30, 2026, the executive office of housing and livable communities, in consultation with the executive office of aging and independence, the city of Somerville, Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless, Inc., and the Aging Services Access Points, shall submit a report on the outcomes of the study to the joint committee on aging and independence, the joint committee on housing and the house and senate committees on ways and means that shall include, but not be limited to: (a) the number of people served by the program, including available demographic information; (b) the average cost per participant; (c) whether participants have previously received services from the executive office; (d) the length of time participants utilize services before being able to access permanent housing solutions; (e) any projected cost-savings to the commonwealth associated with this program; (f) any policy or legislative recommendations to implement the program statewide or support housing stability for those eligible for the program; (g) the projected costs of implementing the program statewide; (h) any projected cost-savings of implementing the program statewide; and (i) testimony and recommendations from at least 3 older adults who have experienced housing instability or homelessness who shall be chosen by Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless, Inc.”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$300,000”.

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Jehlen moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$35,000 shall be expended to Groundwork Somerville, Inc. to support continued programming to promote environmental, economic and social wellbeing”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$135,000”.

987

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Jehlen moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$60,000 shall be expended to Medford public schools for the purchase of a school van for the Curtis-Tufts high school”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$160,000”.

988

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Jehlen and Mr. Collins moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7004-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$75,000 shall be expended to Action for Boston Community Development, Inc. for its mobile homeless outreach team for service in Everett, Malden and Medford”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$175,000”.

989

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Jehlen moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7004-0107, by adding the following:- “; provided further, that not less than \$75,000 shall be expended for the Community Action Agency of Somerville, Inc. for tenant rights education and advocacy”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$175,000”.

990

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Jehlen moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$170,000 shall be expended for the Visiting Nurse Association of Eastern Massachusetts, Inc. to provide quality care and services to low-income and housing unstable individuals at its VNA Senior Living at Highland location”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$270,000”.

992

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Kennedy moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$75,000 shall be expended towards municipal improvements in the town of Dunstable”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$175,000”.

994

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Kennedy moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$75,000 shall be expended towards municipal improvements in the town of Pepperell”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$175,000”.

995

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Kennedy moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$75,000 shall be expended towards municipal improvements in the town of Dracut”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$175,000”.

996

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Kennedy moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$75,000 shall be expended towards the municipal improvements in the town of Tyngsborough”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$175,000”.

997

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Collins moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to the Joseph Nee South Boston Collaborative Center for substance use disorder programming; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to South Boston Neighborhood House, Inc. for community programming; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to Ella J. Baker House Inc. for youth programming; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for Caribbean American Carnival Association of Boston, Inc. for cultural events in the community; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for Julie's Family Learning Program, Inc. for family support, wellness and education initiatives; provided further, not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to Redefining Our Community Inc. for their Morton Street community room programming; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to Boston Firefighter and Family Cancer Foundation Co. to support members who are diagnosed with occupational cancer; provided further, that not less than \$10,000 shall be expended to the Handel and Haydn Society to support their youth choirs; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to the Joyce and James Reed Charitable Trust for technological training and education programs administered by the South End Technology Center, Inc.; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to the South Boston Neighborhood Development Corporation for the South Boston Street Festival to be enjoyed by local residents; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to Save the Harbor, Save the Bay, Inc. to support staffing at Carson beach within Old Harbor reservation and provide assistance at special permitted events; provided

998

further that not less than \$10,000 shall be expended to Boston City Lights Foundation, Inc. for its performing arts and cultural programming; provided further, that not less than \$30,000 shall be expended to South Boston Special Kids & Young Adults Corp for their group activities and programming; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to Boston Women’s Heritage Trail for the Cedar Grove project, honoring 133 women from the Home for Aged Colored Women buried in two unmarked graves, supporting historical preservation and public engagement in Dorchester; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to the Boston Irish Heritage Trail to expand the trail as a historical and cultural attraction for residents, visitors and educators; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to the Dorchester Food Co-op for food security programming; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for The People’s Academy to support its pre-apprenticeship program training inner-city residents in the copper trade”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$600,000”.

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Crighton moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 9110-9002, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to the Swampscott Council on Aging for facilities upgrades”; and by striking out the figure “\$29,522,592” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$29,547,592”.

1001

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Crighton moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4512-0205, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$125,000 shall be expended to the city of Lynn for mental health and substance use disorder services”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$225,000”.

1002

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$250,000 shall be expended to the James P Harrington Organization, Inc. in the town of Marshfield to support health and wellness programming at Ferry hill”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$350,000”.

1003

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Crighton moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to Camp Fire North Shore, Inc. for youth programming”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

1004

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Crighton moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$30,000 shall be expended to the town of Nahant for capital improvements to parks”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$130,000”.

1005

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Crighton moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to Girls on the Run Greater Boston, Inc to provide social-emotional learning and physical activity curriculum to elementary and middle school-aged girls in the city of Lynn and the towns of Lynnfield, Marblehead, Nahant, Saugus and Swampscott”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

1012

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Crighton moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2330-0100, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for a boat for the harbormaster in the town of Saugus”; and by striking out the figure “\$9,639,804” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$9,689,804”. 1013

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Crighton moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to RAW Art Works, Inc. in the city of Lynn to support youth programing”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”. 1014

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Velis moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4590-1507, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$70,000 shall be expended for the Greater Holyoke YMCA in the city of Holyoke for improvements to its facilities, including, but not limited to, its locker rooms, to support its youth physical fitness programming”; and by striking out the figure “\$7,200,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$7,270,000”. 1015

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Velis moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 9110-9002, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for the Southampton Council on Aging in the town of Southampton for capital improvements and programming”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$125,000”. 1016

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$10,000 shall be expended to Type One, Inc. in the town of Hingham to combat type 1 diabetes; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to Tiny Transplant Titans Inc in the city known as the town of Weymouth to provide support to children who have received life-saving transplants; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to the Magical Moon Foundation, Inc. in the town of Marshfield to nurture and empower children with cancer and other life threatening conditions by teaching healthy ways to deal with challenges and stress; provided further, that not less than \$15,000 shall be expended to Norwell Grange Corporation based in the town of Norwell to encourage agricultural and environmental sustainability; provided further, that not less than \$10,000 shall be expended to The Cook Family Charitable Fund, Inc. in the town of Marshfield to enhance the well-being of individuals facing challenges associated with addiction, cancer and intellectual disabilities; provided further, that not less than \$40,000 shall be expended to Hull Lifesaving Museum Inc. in the town of Hull to promote tourism in the south shore region; provided further, that not less than \$30,000 shall be expended to Norwell Visiting Nurse Association, Inc. in the town of Norwell to deliver quality in-home care to those in need; provided further, that not less than \$10,000 shall be provided to The Friends of the Marshfield Dog Park, Inc. in the town of Marshfield to maintain the dog park and foster community growth; provided further, that not less than \$10,000 shall be expended to Hull Pride Incorporated in the town of Hull to strengthen local community connections; provided further, that not less than \$5,000 shall be expended to St. John the Evangelist Church in the town of Hingham to support the program known as Laundry Love to provide laundry assistance to low-income individuals throughout the South Shore”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$280,000”. 1017

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Cyr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2810- 1018

0122, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to Friends of Bass River for the purchase and installation of passive filtration culvert inserts and to address the removal of Chesapeake Bay boring sponge in the Bass River in Dennis and Yarmouth”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Cyr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7004-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to the Martha’s Vineyard Commission to conduct a feasibility study to determine a permanent location for Martha’s Vineyard shelter services”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

1019

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Cyr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$60,000 shall be expended to the Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce to support regional businesses and nonprofits relating to the Cape Cod bridges replacement project and the implementation of a transportation management agency”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$160,000”.

1020

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Cyr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 1410-1616, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$20,000 shall be expended to Cape and Islands Veterans Outreach Center, Inc., for the purchase of a new software-based ride scheduling system and for a contract for services with the Cape Cod & Islands regional group of the Blinded Veterans Association”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$120,000”.

1021

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Cyr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to the Museum of African American History, Incorporated in the town of Nantucket for operational support and upgrades to the historic African Meeting House including, but not limited to, preparations for the celebration of the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

1022

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Cyr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$70,000 shall be expended to the Barnstable Public School District for costs associated with transporting students in the Launch Transitions program, including the purchase of a handicap accessible van”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$170,000”.

1023

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Brady moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 1410-0012, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to the Avon VFW Post 8892 for necessary infrastructure repairs to improve Americans with Disabilities Act accessibility for veterans and the general public”; and by striking out the figure “\$9,678,473” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$9,703,473”.

1025

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Oliveira moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 1599-0026, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$90,000 shall be expended for town hall security improvements in the town of Hampden”; and by striking

1027



out the figure “\$10,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$10,090,000”.

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Oliveira, Velis, Gómez and Mark moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for Girls on the Run of Western MA, Inc. to provide social-emotional learning and physical activity curricula to elementary and middle school-aged girls”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

1028

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Cyr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to The Cultural Center of Cape Cod, Inc., for facility upgrades and improvements that promote Americans with Disabilities Act accessibility”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

1029

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Oliveira moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to the town of Belchertown for the Mass Central Rail Trail”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$125,000”.

1032

The amendment was adopted.

Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for accessibility and seating improvements at the Lillian Gregerman Bandshell in the town of Wareham”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

1033

The amendment was adopted.

Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 9110-9002, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$40,000 shall be expended for the expansion of the parking lot at the Dighton Council on Aging”; and by striking out the figure “\$29,522,592” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$29,562,592”.

1034

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Oliveira moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2511-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to Rachel’s Table to continue with anti-hunger initiatives”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

1035

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Oliveira and Gómez moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$60,000 shall be expended for Springfield Performing Arts Ventures Inc. to promote increased access to the arts in the community and support continued programming at 52Sumner”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$160,000”.

1038

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Oliveira moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7007-0952, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$75,000 shall be expended to the Zoo in Forest Park and Education Center to support workforce and economic development, travel and tourism and wildlife conservation”; and by striking out the figure “\$4,700,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$4,775,000”.

1039

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Driscoll moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8324-1042  
0050, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall  
be expended to the town of Stoughton for equipment upgrades and the continuation of  
essential services at the Stoughton fire department”; and by striking out the figure  
“\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Driscoll moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1043  
1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further that not less than \$60,000 shall  
be expended to the town of Bridgewater for building a pavilion and other improvements  
associated with a pavilion at the Town River Landing”; and by striking out the figure  
“\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$160,000”.

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Driscoll moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8324-1044  
0050, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$40,000 shall  
be expended to the town of Randolph for the purchase of a new emergency backup generator  
for the Randolph fire department’s central station”; and by striking out the figure  
“\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$140,000”.

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Driscoll moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1045  
0900, by adding the following words:- “; provided further that not less than \$35,000 shall  
be expended to the town of Easton for purposes related to its tricentennial celebration”; and  
by striking out the figure “\$283,203” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:-  
“\$318,203”.

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Driscoll moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8324-1046  
0050, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$40,000 shall  
be expended to the Milton fire department”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and  
inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$140,000”.

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Driscoll moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2511-1049  
0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall  
be expended for West Bridgewater Food Pantry, Inc. to combat food insecurity”; and by  
striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:-  
“\$125,000”.

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Driscoll moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 9110-1050  
9002, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall  
be expended to the Council on Aging in the town of West Bridgewater”.

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Oliveira moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 1410-1051  
0010, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall  
be expended for the Ludlow department of veterans’ services for services including, but not  
limited to, monthly veterans’ lunches, food pantry supports and outreach programming”;  
and by striking out the figure “\$12,435,036” and inserting in place thereof the following  
figure:- “\$12,485,036”.

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Oliveira moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4000-1053  
0300, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall  
be expended for Baystate Wing Hospital Corporation in the town of Palmer to ensure health  
equity by creating open access hours for emergency department mental health patient  
follow-up services in the hospital and to establish an open walk-in clinic for patients with

mental health issues”; and by striking out the figure “\$158,090,882” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$158,140.882”.

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Payano moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 0640-0300, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to Debbie’s Treasure Chest in the city of Lawrence to provide aid and support to disadvantaged and at-risk families in the Merrimack Valley”; and by striking out the figure “\$26,045,152” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “26,095,152”.

1054

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Payano moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 0640-0300, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$75,000 shall be expended to Elevated Thought, Inc. to support the creation of murals in the city of Lawrence”; and by striking out the figure “\$26,045,152” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “26,120,152”.

1055

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Driscoll moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2511-0107, by adding after the phrase “nutritious food” the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$10,000 shall be expended in a grant for the Joshua Kaye Foundation for the purposes of combating food insecurity in the commonwealth”; and by striking the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$110,000”.

1058

The amendment was adopted.

**As previously stated, the above amendments were considered as one and adopted.**

**There being no objection, the following amendments were considered as one, and rejected as follows:**

Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2E, in item 1595-6368, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$2,000,000 shall be expended to South Shore Health to support its efforts to improve accessibility to critical health care services on its Weymouth campus”; and by striking out the figure “\$572,620,163” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$574,620,163”.

832

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mrs. Dooner and Messrs. Tarr and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended in section 2, by inserting after item 1595-6379 the following item:-

840

“xxxx-xxxx For the purpose of conducting an independent audit of the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority, to be overseen by the office of the state auditor or a third-party entity contracted in consultation with the office of the state auditor, to evaluate the authority’s operations, safety practices, financial management, and capital project efficiency ..... \$500,000”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Moore, Mark, Payano and Collins and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 0337-0002, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$451,500 shall be expended for the Worcester County court-appointed special advocates program for its court-appointed special advocates program in Worcester county; provided further, that not less than \$136,000 shall be expended for the Franklin and Hampshire County court-appointed special advocates program; provided further, that not less than \$180,000 shall be expended for the Hampden county court-appointed special advocates program; provided further, that not less than \$167,000 shall be expended for the Essex county court-appointed special advocates program; provided further, that not less than \$288,000 shall be expended for the Boston court-appointed special advocates program; provided further, that not less than \$100,000

841

shall be expended for the Berkshire county court-appointed special advocates program; provided further, that not less than \$131,250 shall be expended for the Bristol County court-appointed special advocates program; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended to Massachusetts CASA Association”; and by striking out the figure “\$27,679,013” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$29,232,763”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Eldridge, Gómez and Keenan and Ms. Miranda moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 0321-2100, by striking out the figure “\$3,272,105” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$3,357,065”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Fernandes moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section the following section:-

“SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. Chapter 124, section 2A of the acts of 1953, as inserted by chapter 260 of the acts of 1987, by inserting after the words ‘assistant criminal identification officer employed by the county of Barnstable’ the following words:- ‘or the county of Plymouth’.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Lovely and Messrs. Gómez and Eldridge moved that the proposed new text be amended in section 2, by striking out item 5055-0000 and inserting in place thereof the following item:-

“5055-0000 For forensic services provided by the department of mental health, provided, that not less than \$1,500,000 shall be expended for juvenile court clinics.....\$18,962,959”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Mark, O'Connor and Brady moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7100-0700, by striking out the figure “\$2,813,465” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$3,213,465”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Mark, Lewis, Gómez, Fernandes, O'Connor, Eldridge and Payano moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4200-0700, by striking out the figure “\$1,873,906” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “2,272,200”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Creem, Messrs. Lewis, Gómez, Collins and Moore, Ms. Miranda, Messrs. Eldridge and Payano, Ms. Jehlen and Messrs. Brady and Driscoll moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8000-0655, by striking out the figure “\$7,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$8,000,000”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Cyr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8910-8200, by striking out the figure “\$33,416,711” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$36,416,711”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Cronin and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8000-0313, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for the Massachusetts Wing Civil Air Patrol for the purposes of emergency services preparedness and training”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$200,000”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Fernandes and Cyr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 0340-1000, by striking out the figure “\$6,715,417” and inserting in its place the following figure:- “\$7,236,891”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Cronin and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section

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2, in item 8100-1004, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$500,000 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”; and by striking out the figure “\$32,785,951” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$33,286,951”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Fattman moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8324-0050, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$12,000 shall be expended to the Northbridge fire department for costs associated with purchasing fire engine equipment, including but not limited to positive pressure ventilation fans”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$112,000”.

902

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Fattman moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8000-0313, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$150,000 shall be expended to the town of Monson for public safety, including but not limited to the purchase of public safety radios for the fire and police departments”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$250,000”.

903

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Fattman moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8000-0313, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$45,000 shall be expended to the Holland police department for public safety upgrades, including but not limited to the purchase of a utility task vehicle”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$145,000”.

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The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Fattman moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8324-0050, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to the Southbridge fire department for public safety upgrades, including but not limited to fire station sitework”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$125,000”.

905

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Mark moved that the proposed new text be amended in section 2, in item 8000-0313, by adding the following words:- “; provided further that not less than \$50,000 be expended for the Rural Network to End Domestic Violence to provide technical assistance and support for the Southern Hilltown Domestic Violence Task Force”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

909

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Mark moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8000-0313, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$13,000 shall be expended for the town of Cheshire to aid in acquiring a fire rescue boat”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$113,000”.

910

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Mark moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8000-0313, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for the town of Granville to aid in acquiring a police cruiser”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

913

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Mark moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8000-0313, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended to Volunteers in Medicine Berkshires for continued expansion in services in the city of Pittsfield and town of Great Barrington”; and by striking out the figure

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“\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$200,000”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Crighton moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8000-0313, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$30,000 shall be expended to make critical upgrades to the public safety building in the town of Saugus”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$130,000”.

917

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Crighton moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8100-1001, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$2,000,000 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 2026; provided further, that funds shall be expended for directed patrols at Constitution Beach in East 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 Quincy”; and by striking out the figure “\$403,696,893” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$405,821,893”.

918

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Edwards, Ms. Miranda and Messrs. Collins and Montigny moved that the proposed new text be amended in section 2, in section 2 by inserting after item 8910-8900 the following item:-

931

“XXXX-XXXX For costs associated with the mixed acuity substance abuse disorder and behavioral health treatment initiative known as Project Evolve at the Suffolk County Jail in the city of Boston.....\$2,700,00”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Fattman and Tarr, Mrs. Dooner and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8700-0001, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$250,000 shall be expended to support mental health services for military personnel”; and by striking out the figure “\$14,716,796” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$14,966,796”.

933

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Durant and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7061-0008, by striking out the figure “\$7,096,864,553” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$7,196,864,553”.

939

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Rush and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by inserting the following:- “; provided further, that no less than \$25,000 be expended to support the operations of Anna’s Pals, a nonprofit aiding pediatric cancer patients and their families”; and by striking the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$125,000”.

946

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Rush moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 1599-0026, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, not less than \$175,000 shall be expended for the town of Dedham Endicott Estate fire safety upgrade”; and by striking out the figure “\$10,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$10,175,000”.

947

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Rush moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 1599-

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0026, by adding the following:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to the town of Westwood for renovations to create a hybrid public meeting space”; and by striking the figure “\$10,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$10,050,000”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Rush moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7004-9005, by inserting the following words:- “; provided further that not less than \$150,000 shall be expended to Boston Housing Authority to support the modernization of the M.M. Collins apartments located on Pond Street in the Jamaica Plain section of the city of Boston”; and by striking out the figure “\$116,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$116,150,000”.

951

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Rush and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to the Matt Brown Foundation, Inc. in Norwood to support individuals and families living with or recovering from illness or injury, with a particular emphasis on those living with or recovering from spinal cord injuries”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$125,000”.

968

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$150,000 shall be expended to the town of Scituate for the purpose of connecting the W.P.A Field House and Pump Station to town’s fiber optic network”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$250,000”.

1000

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Crighton moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2511-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for the operation of the Catholic Charities Food Pantry of Lynn”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

1006

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Crighton moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$45,000 shall be expended for improvements to the Glen Meadow Little League field in the town of Lynnfield”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$145,000”.

1007

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Crighton moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for playground upgrades at Newhall Park in the town of Lynnfield”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$200,000”.

1008

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Crighton moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$35,000 shall be expended to the town of Swampscott for repairs to the Jackson Park track and field at Swampscott High School”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$135,000”.

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The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Crighton moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 1410-1616, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$40,000 shall

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be expended to the city of Lynn for the construction and repair of war memorials”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$140,000”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Crighton moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2511-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$90,000 shall be expended to Greater Lynn Senior Services, Inc. for the operation of the Phoenix Food Hub located in the city of Lynn”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$190,000”.

1011

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Cyr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended to Hyannis Main Street Business Improvement District for subsidized fiber internet connections for small businesses located within the Hyannis business improvement district”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$200,000”.

1024

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Edwards and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2810-0122, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$250,000 shall be provided to the Boston 4 Celebrations Foundation, Inc. for the Boston Pops Fireworks Spectacular for the fourth of July, Independence Day celebrations on the Charles River”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$350,000”.

1026

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Cyr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to Cape Abilities for parking area expansion, improving accessibility and emergency vehicle access”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$150,000”.

1030

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Edwards and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-0900, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$250,000 shall be expended to Revolutionary Spaces Inc. to address deferred maintenance and make improvements necessary for the operation of the Old State House and Old South Meeting House in Boston”. and by striking out the figures “\$283,203” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$533,203”.

1031

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7004-0107, by inserting the following:- “; provided further, that not less than \$15,000 shall be expended to support senior housing project consulting and planning for the Rehoboth Housing Authority”.

1037

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Edwards, Mr. Keenan and Ms. Miranda moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-0900, in line 12 by inserting after the word “commonwealth” the following words:- “; provided further, that no less than \$250,000 shall be expended for Museum of African American History”; and by striking out the figure “\$283,203” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “533,203”.

1040

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Driscoll, Ms. Miranda and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4120-4000, by inserting after the word “2023” the following:- “; provided further, that not less than \$60,000 shall be expended to Easterseals

1048

Massachusetts to conduct a building needs assessment relative to renovations of the Wellness and Recreation Complex at The Bridge Center in the town of Bridgewater”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Driscoll, O'Connor and Keenan moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2810-0100, by inserting after the word “commonwealth” the following words:- “; provided further that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for the Blue Hills Observatory”; and by striking out the figure “112,563,141” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “112,663,141”.

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The amendment was *rejected*.

**As previously stated, the above amendments were considered as one and *rejected*.**

Mr. Eldridge, Ms. Rausch, Mr. Montigny and Ms. Edwards moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7004-0099, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$200,000 shall be expended for Massachusetts Fair Housing Center, Inc. to protect residents of the commonwealth from housing discrimination”; and by striking out the figure “\$15,573,388” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “15,773,388”.

10

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Eldridge, Gómez, Keenan, Fernandes, Mark and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7004-9033, by striking out the figure “\$16,548,125” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$17,048,125”.

130

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Eldridge, Ms. Rausch and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 0610-0010, by adding the following words:- “; and provided further, that not less than \$250,000 shall be expended to the MIDAS Collaborative, Inc. as a fiscal intermediary for matched-savings programs, which help to close critical racial and other wealth gaps of low-to-moderate-income households, in partnership with financial institutions, community development corporations, community foundations and other community-based organizations”.

256

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Keenan, O'Connor and Montigny moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2E, in item 1595-6369, by inserting after the word “workforce”, the following words:- “; provided further, that the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority shall submit a report by September 1, 2025, to the house and senate committee on ways and means, the senate committee on post audit and oversight, the joint committee on mental health, substance use and recovery and the joint committee on transportation that shall include an accounting for the funds provided in item 4512-0206 in chapter 28 of the acts of 2023 including: (i) how much the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority has expended to place accessible naloxone at all red line stations; (ii) what the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority has done to create a record of naloxone used each day at red line stations; (iii) which red line stations have accessible naloxone; (iv) the dates when each red line station received naloxone; and (v) what plans the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority has to place accessible naloxone at each red line station”.

820

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Rush moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting the following section:-

821

“SECTION XX. Chapter 161A of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the following section:-

Section XX. The Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority shall designate all commuter rail stations in the city of Boston as Zone 1A to promote fare equity for commuters in the city of Boston.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Gómez and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 0940-0100, by striking out the figure “\$8,811,293” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$9,005,005”.

846

After remarks, the amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Gómez, Lewis, Collins and Moore, Ms. Miranda, Mr. Eldridge, Ms. Edwards, Mr. Payano and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7004-9034, by adding the following words:- “, prior appropriation continued”.

848

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Messrs. DiDomenico and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_\_\_ the following sections:-

854

“SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. Notwithstanding sections 93 and 94 of chapter 221; section 6 of chapter 211A; sections 53, 58, and 79 of chapter 218; section 35A of chapter 217; section 14 of chapter 185 and section 9A of chapter 185C, section 28D1/2 of chapter 278 or any other general or special law or by-law to the contrary, the salaries of the Clerk of the Supreme Judicial Court for the Commonwealth, the Clerk of the of the Supreme Judicial Court for Suffolk County, the Clerk of the Appeals Court, the Clerks in the Superior Court, the Clerks of the Boston Municipal Court; the Clerks in the Juvenile Department; the Clerks in the District Court Department; the Registers of the Probate and Family Court Department; the Recorder of the Land Court Department; and the Clerks of the Housing Court Department shall be 84.57 percent of the salary of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court.

SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. Section 14 of chapter 185 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 2, ‘81.57 per cent of the chief justice of said department’ and inserting in place thereof the following:- ‘84.57 per cent of the Chief Justice of the supreme judicial court’.

SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. Section 9A of chapter 185C of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 3, ‘81.57 per cent of the chief justice of said department’ and inserting in place thereof the following:- ‘84.57 per cent of the chief justice of the supreme Judicial Court’.

SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. Section 22 of chapter 211 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 1, the figure ‘\$232,101’ and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- ‘\$252,101’.

SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. Said section 22 of said chapter 211 is hereby further amended by striking out, in line 2, the figure ‘\$226,187’ and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- ‘\$246,187’.

SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. Section 2 of chapter 211A of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 1, the figure ‘\$219,856’ and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- ‘\$239,856’.

SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. Said section 2 of said chapter 211A is hereby further amended by striking out, in line 2, the figure ‘\$213,924’ and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- ‘\$233,924’.

SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. Section 6 of said chapter 211A is hereby amended by striking out, in line 10, the following:- ‘81.57 per cent of the salary of the chief justice of said court’ and inserting in place thereof the following:- ‘84.57 per cent of the salary of the chief justice of the supreme judicial court’.

SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. Section 4 of chapter 211B of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 3, the figure ‘\$207,855’ and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- ‘\$227,855’.

SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. Said section 4 of said chapter 211B is hereby further amended by striking out, in line 5, the figure ‘\$213,966’ and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- ‘\$233,966’.



SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. Said section 4 of said chapter 211B is hereby further amended by striking out, in line 7, the figure ‘\$220,160’ and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- ‘\$240,160’.

SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. Section 35A of chapter 217 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 2, the following:- ‘81.57 per cent of the salary of the chief justice of the department’ and inserting in place thereof the following:- ‘84.57 per cent of the salary of the chief justice of the supreme judicial court’.

SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. Section 53 of chapter 218 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 9, the following ‘81.57 of the salary of the chief justice of the department’ and inserting in place thereof the following:- ‘84.57 per cent of the salary of the chief justice of the supreme judicial court’.

SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. Section 58 of said chapter 218 is hereby amended by striking out, in line 94, the following ‘81.57 per cent of the salary of the chief justice of said department’ and inserting in place thereof the following:- ‘84.57 per cent of the salary of the chief justice of the supreme judicial court’.

SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. Section 79 of said chapter 218 is hereby amended by striking out, in line 2, the following ‘81.57 per cent of the salary of the chief justice of said department’ and inserting in place thereof the following:- ‘84.57 per cent of the salary of the chief justice of the supreme judicial court’.

SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. Section 93 of said chapter 221 is hereby amended by striking out, in line 2, the figure ‘81.57’ and inserting in place thereof the following:- ‘84.57’.

SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. Section 94 of said chapter 221 is hereby amended by striking out, in line 11, the figure ‘81.57’ and inserting in place thereof the following:- ‘84.57’.

SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. Said section 94 of said chapter 221 is hereby further amended by striking out, in line 20, the following ‘81.57 per cent of the salary of the chief justice of said department’ and inserting in place thereof the following:- ‘84.57 per cent of the salary of the chief justice of the supreme judicial court’.

SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. This act shall be effective on March 1, 2026.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Edwards, Ms. Miranda, Messrs. Gómez, Mark, Keenan, Payano, Fernandes and Velis, Ms. Lovely, Messrs. O'Connor and Eldridge, Ms. Creem and Mr. Driscoll moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 0321-1500, by striking out the figure “\$86,684,554” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$91,000,000”; and

By inserting after section 38 the following 3 sections:-

“SECTION 38A. Section 11 of chapter 211D of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 5, the figure ‘\$120’ and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- ‘\$130’.

SECTION 38B. Said section 11 of said chapter 211D, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by striking out, in line 7, the figure ‘\$85’ and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- ‘\$90’.

SECTION 38C. Said section 11 of said chapter 211D, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by striking out, in line 12, the figure ‘\$65’ and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- ‘\$75’.”

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Eldridge and Moore and Ms. Kennedy moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8900-1100, by adding the following words:- “; provided that not less than \$1,500,000 shall be expended to Community Compass, an after incarceration support center, to serve those with a history of incarceration in Massachusetts provided further, that said support center shall be administered by the Department of Correction for the purposes of lessening recidivism and increasing public safety by providing comprehensive reentry services that address the social determinants of health; and provided

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further, that not less than \$228,000 shall be expended for fidelity monitoring and professional evaluation of the support center's effectiveness and recommendations on any improvements needed and said evaluation shall be sent to the house and senate committees on ways and means not later than March 10, 2026"; and by striking out the figure "\$1,533,580" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$3,261,580".

After remarks, the amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Gómez and Oliveira moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8000-0313, by adding the following words:- "; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to the cities of Springfield and Chicopee for C3 police management in low income and downtown neighborhoods to facilitate community involvement"; and by striking the figure "\$100,000" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$150,000".

884

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Collins, Durant, Mark, Velis, Fattman, Rush, Cronin, Eldridge and Keenan, Mrs. Dooner, Messrs. Payano, O'Connor, Oliveira, Driscoll and Brady and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8324-0000, by inserting after the words "cost of the program" the following words:- "; provided further, that not less than \$2,350,000 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".

887

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. DiDomenico, Montigny, Brady, Gómez, Moore, Eldridge, Keenan, Lewis and Payano, Ms. Rausch and Messrs. Collins, O'Connor and Driscoll moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8100-0111, by striking out the figure "\$12,857,730" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$13,400,000".

908

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Montigny and Tarr, Mrs. Dooner and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8000-0605, by adding the following words:- ", the number of investigations, criminal charges, and convictions that were carried out by each grant recipient, the number of victims and survivors who were assisted by each grant recipient, and the name of each community partner engaged by each grant recipient; and by striking out the figure "\$100,000" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$500,000".

919

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Edwards and Messrs. Montigny, Gómez, Eldridge and Payano moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4512-2020, by striking out the figure "1,000,000" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "3,700,000".

925

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Fattman and Tarr, Mrs. Dooner and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_ the following section:-

932

"SECTION X. Section 78 of chapter 10 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting, in line 23, after the word 'service' the following words:- 'or if called to active service as a current member of the Massachusetts National Guard or an Armed Forces Reserve Component of a Massachusetts based unit'."

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Fernandes moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8324-0050, by adding the following words:- "; provided further, that not less than \$40,000 shall be expended to the towns of Plymouth, Pembroke, Kingston, Plympton, Falmouth, Mashpee, Bourne and Sandwich to purchase PFAS-free test gear for their fire departments"; and by striking out the figure "\$100,000" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$140,000".

953

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Keenan moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8000-0313, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$20,000 shall be expended to the Abington police department for purposes including, but not limited to, training, embedded clinicians and an enclosed transport trailer for critical incident response”; and by striking out the figure:- “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$120,000”.

999

The amendment was adopted.

Ms. Friedman, Ms. Lovely, Mr. Lewis, Ms. Rausch, Ms. Edwards and Ms. Creem moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting the text of Senate document numbered 2520 relative to Lowering Prescription Drug Costs.

541

After debate, the question on adoption of the amendment was determined by a call of the yeas and nays at two minutes before one o’clock P.M., on motion of Ms. Friedman, as follows, to wit (yeas 34 – nays 5) [**Yeas and Nays No. 33**]:

**YEAS.**

Barrett, Michael J.  
Brady, Michael D.  
Brownsberger, William N.  
Collins, Nick  
Comerford, Joanne M.  
Creem, Cynthia Stone  
Crighton, Brendan P.  
Cronin, John J.  
Cyr, Julian  
DiDomenico, Sal N.  
Driscoll, Jr., William J.  
Edwards, Lydia  
Eldridge, James B.  
Feeney, Paul R.  
Fernandes, Dylan A.  
Finegold, Barry R.  
Friedman, Cindy F.

Gómez, Adam  
Jehlen, Patricia D.  
Kennedy, Edward J.  
Kennedy, Robyn K.  
Lewis, Jason M.  
Lovely, Joan B.  
Mark, Paul W.  
Miranda, Liz  
Montigny, Mark C.  
Moore, Michael O.  
O'Connor, Patrick M.  
Oliveira, Jacob R.  
Payano, Pavel  
Rausch, Rebecca L.  
Rodrigues, Michael J.  
Rush, Michael F.  
Velis, John C. – **34.**

**NAYS.**

Dooner, Kelly A.  
Durant, Peter J.  
Fattman, Ryan C.

Keenan, John F.  
Tarr, Bruce E. – **5.**

The yeas and nays having been completed at five minutes past one o’clock P.M., the amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Velis and Tarr, Mrs. Dooner, Messrs. O'Connor and Montigny and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following section:-

803

“SECTION XX. Section 6B of chapter 115 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out, in paragraph 3, the words ‘, provided, that the surviving spouse does not remarry,’.”

After remarks, the question on adoption of the amendment was determined by a call of the yeas and nays at seventeen minutes past one o’clock P.M., on motion of Mr. Velis, as follows, to wit (yeas 40 – nays 0) [**Yeas and Nays No. 34**]:

**YEAS.**

Barrett, Michael J.  
Brady, Michael D.

Gómez, Adam  
Jehlen, Patricia D.

Brownsberger, William N.  
Collins, Nick  
Comerford, Joanne M.  
Creem, Cynthia Stone  
Crighton, Brendan P.  
Cronin, John J.  
Cyr, Julian  
DiDomenico, Sal N.  
Dooner, Kelly A.  
Driscoll, Jr., William J.  
Durant, Peter J.  
Edwards, Lydia  
Eldridge, James B.  
Fattman, Ryan C.  
Feeney, Paul R.  
Fernandes, Dylan A.  
Finegold, Barry R.  
Friedman, Cindy F.

Keenan, John F.  
Kennedy, Edward J.  
Kennedy, Robyn K.  
Lewis, Jason M.  
Lovely, Joan B.  
Mark, Paul W.  
Miranda, Liz  
Montigny, Mark C.  
Moore, Michael O.  
O'Connor, Patrick M.  
Oliveira, Jacob R.  
Payano, Pavel  
Rausch, Rebecca L.  
Rodrigues, Michael J.  
Rush, Michael F.  
Spilka, Karen E.  
Tarr, Bruce E.  
Velis, John C. – 40.

**NAYS – 0.**

The yeas and nays having been completed at twenty-four minutes past one o'clock P.M., the amendment was adopted.

*Recess.*

There being no objection, at twenty-five minutes past one o'clock P.M., the Chair (Mr. Brownsberger) declared a recess subject to the call of the Chair; and, at twenty-seven minutes past three o'clock P.M., the Senate reassembled, Ms. Creem in the Chair.

Recess.

*Orders of the Day.*

The Orders of the Day were further considered as follows:

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. 4001),-- was further considered, the main question being on ordering the bill to a third reading.

General  
appropriations bill.

Ms. Rausch, Mr. O'Connor, Ms. Creem, Ms. Lovely and Mr. Cyr moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section 16 the following section:-

476

“SECTION 16A. Said chapter 29, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by inserting after section 2JJJJJ the following section:-

Section 2KKKKKK. (a) There shall be established and set up on the books of the commonwealth a separate, non-budgeted special revenue fund known as the Scientific Research Fund, which shall be administered by the executive office of health and human services. The fund shall be credited with: (i) revenue from appropriations or other money authorized by the general court and specifically designated to be credited to the fund; (ii) interest earned on such revenues; and (iii) funds from public and private sources, including, but not limited to, gifts, grants, donations and settlements received by the commonwealth that are designated to be credited to the fund. The fund shall be expended, without further appropriation, for the executive office to provide research grants in the fields of science, medicine, public health, mental health and other biological or behavioral areas of inquiry; provided, however, that the executive office shall prioritize for funding grant proposals from academic and other nonprofit applicants. Any unexpended balance in the fund at the end of

a fiscal year shall remain available for expenditure in subsequent fiscal years and shall not revert to the General Fund. No expenditure shall be made from the fund which causes the fund to be in a deficit at any point.

(b) Annually, not later than March 1, the executive office shall report on the activities of the fund from the previous calendar year to the clerks of the senate and house of representatives, the senate and house committees on ways and means, the joint committee on health care financing, the joint committee on public health and the joint committee on economic development and emerging technologies. The executive office may promulgate regulations or issue guidance to implement this section.”

After remarks, the question on adoption of the amendment was determined by a call of the yeas and nays at nineteen minutes before four o’clock P.M., on motion of Ms. Rausch, as follows, to wit (yeas 39 – nays 0) **[Yeas and Nays No. 35]:**

**YEAS.**

Barrett, Michael J.	Gómez, Adam
Brady, Michael D.	Jehlen, Patricia D.
Brownsberger, William N.	Keenan, John F.
Collins, Nick	Kennedy, Edward J.
Comerford, Joanne M.	Kennedy, Robyn K.
Creem, Cynthia Stone	Lewis, Jason M.
Crighton, Brendan P.	Lovely, Joan B.
Cronin, John J.	Mark, Paul W.
Cyr, Julian	Miranda, Liz
DiDomenico, Sal N.	Montigny, Mark C.
Dooner, Kelly A.	Moore, Michael O.
Driscoll, Jr., William J.	O'Connor, Patrick M.
Durant, Peter J.	Oliveira, Jacob R.
Edwards, Lydia	Payano, Pavel
Eldridge, James B.	Rausch, Rebecca L.
Fattman, Ryan C.	Rodrigues, Michael J.
Feeney, Paul R.	Rush, Michael F.
Fernandes, Dylan A.	Tarr, Bruce E.
Finegold, Barry R.	Velis, John C. – <b>39.</b>
Friedman, Cindy F.	

**NAYS – 0.**

The yeas and nays having been completed at fourteen minutes before four o’clock P.M., the amendment was adopted.

Mr. Finegold and Ms. Friedman moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section 70 the following section:-

“SECTION 70A. Chapter 238 of the acts of 2024 is hereby amended by striking out section 284 and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

Section 284. Notwithstanding chapter 31 of the General Laws or any other general or special law to the contrary, a city or town, on behalf of which legislation has been duly filed with the general court between January 4, 2023 and July 31, 2024, inclusive, relative to the participation in civil service of the police or fire department of the city or town or any or all positions within said police or fire department, and which includes a documented local approval as acknowledged by the clerk of the senate or house of representatives, may enact any such exemption, including, but not limited to, a procedural exemption related to hiring practices, as specified within such legislation without the need for any further action by the general court on such legislation; provided, however, that any city or town that seeks an

95



exemption pursuant to this section shall submit a letter indicating that the city or town still seeks such exemption from said chapter 31 to the personnel administrator of the division of human resources within the executive office for administration and finance, the joint committee on public service and the chair of the civil service commission duly signed by: (i) the mayor or city manager, in the case of a city, or the chair of the select board or town manager, in the case of a town; and (ii) the police chief or fire chief, as applicable, of the department seeking exemption; provided further, that any such letter shall be received by the personnel administrator of the division of human resources in proper form not later than February 15, 2025; provided further, that the appropriate exemption for which such letter is so submitted shall take effect on March 1, 2025; provided further, that the personnel administrator shall reconsider and approve any request for exemption outlined in such letter which previously received an adverse determination of eligibility on the basis of the scope of the local approval as soon as practicable but not later than August 30, 2025; and provided further, that an exemption approved after reconsideration shall be effective as of March 1, 2025."

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Moore, Ms. Rausch and Messrs. Keenan, O'Connor, Montigny and Lewis moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 0900-0100, by striking out the figure "\$3,788,198" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$3,988,198".

251

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Gómez, Velis, Cronin, Lewis, Eldridge, Keenan and Oliveira, Ms. Edwards, Messrs. Payano, Brady, Fernandes, Mark, O'Connor and Montigny, Ms. Rausch and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7004-3036, by striking out the figure "\$5,200,000" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$5,700,000".

428

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Mr. Rush moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting the following section:-

821

"SECTION XX. Chapter 161A of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the following section:-

Section XX. The Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority shall designate all commuter rail stations in the city of Boston as Zone 1A to promote fare equity for commuters in the city of Boston."

After remarks, the amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Kennedy, Velis, Gómez, Lewis, Cronin, Durant, Eldridge, Fernandes and Payano, Ms. Rausch, Messrs. O'Connor and Oliveira, Ms. Lovely, Ms. Creem, Messrs. Montigny and Collins, Ms. Miranda and Messrs. Mark and Tarr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4590-1507, by striking out the figure "\$2,200,000" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$3,000,000"; and by striking out the figure "\$7,200,000" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$8,000,000".

508

After remarks, the question on adoption of the amendment was determined by a call of the yeas and nays at twenty minutes past four o'clock P.M., on motion of Mr. Rodrigues, as follows, to wit (yeas 39 – nays 0) [**Yeas and Nays No. 36**]:

#### YEAS.

Barrett, Michael J.  
Brady, Michael D.  
Brownsberger, William N.  
Collins, Nick  
Comerford, Joanne M.

Gómez, Adam  
Jehlen, Patricia D.  
Keenan, John F.  
Kennedy, Edward J.  
Kennedy, Robyn K.

Creem, Cynthia Stone  
 Crighton, Brendan P.  
 Cronin, John J.  
 Cyr, Julian  
 DiDomenico, Sal N.  
 Dooner, Kelly A.  
 Driscoll, Jr., William J.  
 Durant, Peter J.  
 Edwards, Lydia  
 Eldridge, James B.  
 Fattman, Ryan C.  
 Feeney, Paul R.  
 Fernandes, Dylan A.  
 Finegold, Barry R.  
 Friedman, Cindy F.

Lewis, Jason M.  
 Lovely, Joan B.  
 Mark, Paul W.  
 Miranda, Liz  
 Montigny, Mark C.  
 Moore, Michael O.  
 O'Connor, Patrick M.  
 Oliveira, Jacob R.  
 Payano, Pavel  
 Rausch, Rebecca L.  
 Rodrigues, Michael J.  
 Rush, Michael F.  
 Tarr, Bruce E.  
 Velis, John C. – **39.**

**NAYS – 0.**

The yeas and nays having been completed at twenty-six minutes past four o'clock P.M., the amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Collins, Mark and O'Connor and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 5046-0000, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that the department shall issue updated regulations to improve protocols for the discharge of patients being served by programs and facilities overseen by the department”; and by striking out the figure “\$15,500,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$19,000,000”; and by striking out the figure “\$689,980,438” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$693,480,438”.

After remarks, the question on adoption of the amendment was determined by a call of the yeas and nays at twenty-eight minutes before five o'clock P.M., on motion of Mr. Collins, as follows, to wit (yeas 39 – nays 0) **[Yeas and Nays No. 37]:**

**YEAS.**

Barrett, Michael J.  
 Brady, Michael D.  
 Brownsberger, William N.  
 Collins, Nick  
 Comerford, Joanne M.  
 Creem, Cynthia Stone  
 Crighton, Brendan P.  
 Cronin, John J.  
 Cyr, Julian  
 DiDomenico, Sal N.  
 Dooner, Kelly A.  
 Driscoll, Jr., William J.  
 Durant, Peter J.  
 Edwards, Lydia  
 Eldridge, James B.  
 Fattman, Ryan C.  
 Feeney, Paul R.  
 Fernandes, Dylan A.  
 Finegold, Barry R.  
 Friedman, Cindy F.

Gómez, Adam  
 Jehlen, Patricia D.  
 Keenan, John F.  
 Kennedy, Edward J.  
 Kennedy, Robyn K.  
 Lewis, Jason M.  
 Lovely, Joan B.  
 Mark, Paul W.  
 Miranda, Liz  
 Montigny, Mark C.  
 Moore, Michael O.  
 O'Connor, Patrick M.  
 Oliveira, Jacob R.  
 Payano, Pavel  
 Rausch, Rebecca L.  
 Rodrigues, Michael J.  
 Rush, Michael F.  
 Tarr, Bruce E.  
 Velis, John C. – **39.**

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**NAYS – 0.**

The yeas and nays having been completed at twenty-four minutes before five o'clock P.M., the amendment was adopted.

Ms. Kennedy, Messrs. Mark, Keenan, Payano, Fernandes, O'Connor, Brady, Eldridge and Cyr and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4120-0200, by striking out the figure "\$8,000,000" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$8,500,000".

504

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Messrs. DiDomenico, Gómez, Keenan and Fernandes, Ms. Rausch, Messrs. O'Connor, Eldridge, Tarr and Montigny, Ms. Lovely and Mr. Cyr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4590-1503, by striking out the figure "\$10,440,965" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$10,840,965"; and by striking out the figure "\$13,853,103" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$14,253,103".

524

After remarks, the question on adoption of the amendment was determined by a call of the yeas and nays at a quarter before five o'clock P.M., on motion of Mr. DiDomenico, as follows, to wit (yeas 39 – nays 0) [**Yeas and Nays No. 38**]:

**YEAS.**

Barrett, Michael J.	Gómez, Adam
Brady, Michael D.	Jehlen, Patricia D.
Brownsberger, William N.	Keenan, John F.
Collins, Nick	Kennedy, Edward J.
Comerford, Joanne M.	Kennedy, Robyn K.
Creem, Cynthia Stone	Lewis, Jason M.
Crichton, Brendan P.	Lovely, Joan B.
Cronin, John J.	Mark, Paul W.
Cyr, Julian	Miranda, Liz
DiDomenico, Sal N.	Montigny, Mark C.
Dooner, Kelly A.	Moore, Michael O.
Driscoll, Jr., William J.	O'Connor, Patrick M.
Durant, Peter J.	Oliveira, Jacob R.
Edwards, Lydia	Payano, Pavel
Eldridge, James B.	Rausch, Rebecca L.
Fattman, Ryan C.	Rodrigues, Michael J.
Feeney, Paul R.	Rush, Michael F.
Fernandes, Dylan A.	Tarr, Bruce E.
Finegold, Barry R.	Velis, John C. – <b>39.</b>
Friedman, Cindy F.	

**NAYS – 0.**

The yeas and nays having been completed at ten minutes before five o'clock P.M., the amendment was adopted.

Mr. Montigny, Ms. Rausch, Mr. O'Connor and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4513-1121, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not later than March 2, 2026, the department shall submit a report to the senate committee on post audit and oversight and the senate and house committees on ways and means detailing: (i) expenditures from this item; (ii) the number of persons reached by the campaign under this item; (iii) the methods and strategies implemented to reach said persons; and (iv) activities carried out by the department pursuant to this item; provided further, that not later than September 1, 2025, the department shall update the Statewide Stroke Point-of-Entry Plan pursuant to section 90 of chapter 28 of the acts of

574

2023; provided further, that not later than October 1, 2025, the department shall implement regulations under 105 CMR 130 as promulgated on February 28, 2025, prior appropriation continued”.

After remarks, the question on adoption of the amendment was determined by a call of the yeas and nays at three minutes before five o’clock P.M., on motion of Mr. Montigny, as follows, to wit (yeas 39 – nays 0) [**Yeas and Nays No. 39**]:

**YEAS.**

Barrett, Michael J.	Gómez, Adam
Brady, Michael D.	Jehlen, Patricia D.
Brownsberger, William N.	Keenan, John F.
Collins, Nick	Kennedy, Edward J.
Comerford, Joanne M.	Kennedy, Robyn K.
Creem, Cynthia Stone	Lewis, Jason M.
Crighton, Brendan P.	Lovely, Joan B.
Cronin, John J.	Mark, Paul W.
Cyr, Julian	Miranda, Liz
DiDomenico, Sal N.	Montigny, Mark C.
Dooner, Kelly A.	Moore, Michael O.
Driscoll, Jr., William J.	O'Connor, Patrick M.
Durant, Peter J.	Oliveira, Jacob R.
Edwards, Lydia	Payano, Pavel
Eldridge, James B.	Rausch, Rebecca L.
Fattman, Ryan C.	Rodrigues, Michael J.
Feeney, Paul R.	Rush, Michael F.
Fernandes, Dylan A.	Tarr, Bruce E.
Finegold, Barry R.	Velis, John C. – <b>39.</b>
Friedman, Cindy F.	

**NAYS – 0.**

The yeas and nays having been completed at one minute past five o’clock P.M., the amendment was adopted.

Mr. Oliveira, Ms. Rausch, Messrs. Kennedy, Mark, Eldridge and Cyr and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7000-9401, by striking out the figure “\$19,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$19,500,000”. 615

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Eldridge, Brady, Moore and Keenan, Ms. Edwards, Messrs. Payano, Fernandes and Collins, Ms. Jehlen, Messrs. Cronin, Kennedy, O'Connor, Oliveira and Gómez and Ms. Miranda moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7035-0002, by striking out the figure “\$58,923,559” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$59,853,278”. 616

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Rausch and Messrs. O'Connor, Eldridge, Lewis, Keenan and Cyr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2E, in item 1595-0115, by striking out the figure “\$2,500,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$3,000,000”. 646

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Messrs. DiDomenico, Payano and Eldridge moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_\_\_ the following section:- 681

“SECTION \_\_\_\_ Chapter 29 of the General Laws by inserting after Section 2DDDDDD the following section:

Section 2EEEEEE

(a) There shall be established and set up on the books of the commonwealth a separate fund to be known as the Health Education Trust Fund. The fund shall be administered by the commissioner of elementary and secondary education. The fund shall be credited with:

(i) revenue from appropriations or other money authorized by the general court and specifically designated to be credited to the fund;

(ii) interest earned on such revenues;

(iii) funds from public and private sources such as gifts, grants and donations to further health education and professional development; and

(iv) fines paid to the General Fund for an annual deposit violation pursuant to section 2 of chapter 94E. Amounts credited to the fund shall not be subject to further appropriation and any money remaining in the fund at the end of a fiscal year shall not revert to the General Fund.

(b) Amounts credited to the fund may be expended, without further appropriation, by the commissioner for purposes related to the implementation of sections 1 and 2 of chapter 71, including but not limited to:

(i) the development of curricular materials;

(ii) the purchasing or licensing of curricula and instructional materials; and

(iii) professional development training. Instruction shall be performed in a manner consistent with the learning standards developed pursuant to the comprehensive health and physical education curriculum framework adopted by the board of elementary and secondary education pursuant to section 1E of chapter 69.

(c) In expending amounts credited to the fund, the commissioner may prioritize underserved communities across the commonwealth, including but not limited to:

(i) those school districts with high concentrations of economically disadvantaged students;

(ii) municipalities that have teen birth rates higher than the overall teen birth rate for the state; and

(iii) schools that are implementing parts of a comprehensive health education program compliant with the standards set by the department of elementary and secondary education for the first time.

(d) Amounts received from private sources shall be approved by the commissioner of elementary and secondary education and subject to review before being deposited in the fund to ensure that pledged funds are not accompanied by conditions, explicit or implicit, on the implementation of health education programming that may be detrimental to the neutral and rigorous teaching of health education or unduly influence the direction of health education policy. The review shall be made publicly available.

(e) Annually, not later than October 1, the commissioner shall report to the clerks of the house of representatives and senate, the joint committee on education and the house and senate committees on ways and means on the fund's activity. The report shall include, but not be limited to:

(i) the source and amount of funds received;

(ii) the amounts distributed and the purpose of expenditures from the fund, including but not limited to, funds expended to assist school districts in meeting the requirements in sections 1 and 2 of chapter 71; and

(iii) anticipated revenue and expenditure projections for the next year.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Edwards moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$75,000 be expended for Bottom Line to provide college transition and college retention services for low-income or aspiring first-generation college students”; and by striking out the figure



“\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$175,000”.

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Oliveira and Montigny, Ms. Lovely and Mr. Gómez moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-0005, by striking out the words “; and (d) other methods to improve efficiencies and reduce the cost of school transportation” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- “; (d) methods to create efficiencies for homeless student transportation costs; and (e) other methods to improve efficiencies and reduce the cost of student transportation”.

749

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Mr. Brownsberger in the Chair, Messrs. Collins and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_\_\_ the following section:-

781

“SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. (a) There shall be a commission established referred to as the Massachusetts Competitive Partnership Commission. The commission shall investigate the investments, policies and legislative requirements needed to make Massachusetts more competitive in the meetings and conventions industry internationally. They shall determine the feasibility of financing the improvements to or the expansions of the convention centers and other assets located in the city of Boston and the city of Springfield.

(b)The commission shall consist of: the executive director of Massachusetts Convention Center Authority; the chief executive director of the Massachusetts Port Authority; the executive director of Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism; one senator appointed by the Senate President who shall be co-chair; one representative appointed by the Speaker of the House who shall be co-chair; the president of the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce; the president of the Greater Boston Business and Tourism Bureau; the Mayor of Boston or designee; the president of the Massachusetts taxpayers foundation.

(c) The committee shall file a report of its findings and recommendations, including any recommended legislation, with the clerks of the senate and house of representatives not later than December 31, 2026.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Edwards moved that the proposed new text be amended in section 2, in item 7004-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be provided to We Reach, Inc. to expand its workforce development and apprenticeship training programs”; and by striking out the figure “\$2,334,936” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$2,434,936”.

1052

The amendment was adopted.

### *Moment of Silence.*

At the request of the Chair (Mr. Brownsberger), the members, guests and staff stood in a moment of silence and reflection to the memory of former Methuen Mayor Neil Perry.

Moment of silence.

### *Recess.*

There being no objection, at five minutes before six o'clock P.M. the Chair (Mr. Brownsberger) declared a recess, subject to the call of the Chair; and, at seven minutes past seven o'clock P.M., the Senate reassembled, Ms. Creem in the Chair.

Recess.

### *Orders of the Day.*

The Orders of the Day were further considered as follows:

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

General appropriations bill.

permanent improvements (House, No. 4001),-- was further considered, the main question being on ordering the bill to a third reading.

Mr. Moore moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8000-0313, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$80,000 shall be expended to the Worcester Police Department for software improvements and equipment”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$180,000”.

890

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Moore, O'Connor and Velis moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 1410-0012, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$500,000 shall be expended for the operations of Veterans Inc. for services to veterans including, but not limited to, employment training and substance use treatment”; and by striking out the figure “\$9,678,473” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$10,178,473”.

892

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Moore, Gómez, Montigny, Collins, Durant, Mark, Velis, Fattman, Rush, Cronin, Tarr, Oliveira, Eldridge and Keenan, Ms. Edwards, Mrs. Dooner, Messrs. Payano, Finegold and Fernandes, Ms. Miranda, Messrs. Driscoll, Brady and Kennedy, Ms. Lovely, Ms. Creem and Ms. Rausch moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8324-0050, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$250,000 shall be expended for a municipal grant program administered by the fire marshal for firefighter cancer screenings including advance blood testing and imaging”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$350,000”.

873

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Mr. Driscoll moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4590-1507, by adding the following words:- “; and provided further, that not less than \$40,000 shall be expended to the city known as the town of Randolph to support its enhanced social services program”; and by striking out the figure “\$7,200,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$7,240,000”.

1047

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

### *Moment of Silence.*

At the request of the Chair (Ms. Creem), the members, guests and staff stood in a moment of silence and reflection to the memory of Katherine “Kitty” Dukakis.

Moment of silence.

### *Orders of the Day.*

The Orders of the Day were further considered as follows:

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. 4001),-- was further considered, the main question being on ordering the bill to a third reading.

General  
appropriations bill.

Mr. Brownsberger in the Chair, Mr. Lewis, Ms. Miranda, Messrs. Eldridge, Keenan, Collins and O'Connor, Ms. Rausch and Ms. Creem moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-0012, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that funds appropriated in this item for fiscal year 2026 shall not revert to the General Fund but shall be available until December 31, 2026”.

622

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Mr. Eldridge, Ms. Rausch, Mr. Keenan, Ms. Edwards, Mr. Fernandes and Ms. Lovely

324

moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2810-0100, by striking out the figure “\$112,563,141” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$113,063,141”.

After remarks, the question on adoption of the amendment was determined by a call of the yeas and nays at twenty-two minutes before eight o’clock P.M., on motion of Mr. Eldridge, as follows, to wit (yeas 39 – nays 0) [**Yeas and Nays No. 40**]:

**YEAS.**

Barrett, Michael J.	Gómez, Adam
Brady, Michael D.	Jehlen, Patricia D.
Brownsberger, William N.	Keenan, John F.
Collins, Nick	Kennedy, Edward J.
Comerford, Joanne M.	Kennedy, Robyn K.
Creem, Cynthia Stone	Lewis, Jason M.
Crighton, Brendan P.	Lovely, Joan B.
Cronin, John J.	Mark, Paul W.
Cyr, Julian	Miranda, Liz
DiDomenico, Sal N.	Montigny, Mark C.
Dooner, Kelly A.	Moore, Michael O.
Driscoll, Jr., William J.	O'Connor, Patrick M.
Durant, Peter J.	Oliveira, Jacob R.
Edwards, Lydia	Payano, Pavel
Eldridge, James B.	Rausch, Rebecca L.
Fattman, Ryan C.	Rodrigues, Michael J.
Feeney, Paul R.	Rush, Michael F.
Fernandes, Dylan A.	Tarr, Bruce E.
Finegold, Barry R.	Velis, John C. – <b>39.</b>
Friedman, Cindy F.	

**NAYS – 0.**

The yeas and nays having been completed at sixteen minutes before eight o’clock P.M., the amendment was adopted.

Mr. Driscoll moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 9110-9002, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to the department of elder affairs in the city known as the town of Braintree”; and by striking out the figure “\$29,522,592” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$29,572,592”.

1041

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Mr. Collins moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8324-0050, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended to the Boston fire department to conduct dedicated emergency services through their delta units consisting of three delta unit vehicles assigned to Castle Island, Pleasure Bay and Carson Beach respectively within the Old Harbor Reservation in the South Boston section of the city of Boston seasonally between and including Memorial Day and Labor Day”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$200,000”.

900

The amendment was adopted.

*Recess.*

At eleven minutes before eight o’clock P.M, the Chair (Ms. Creem) declared a recess until the following day at ten o’clock A.M.

Recess.

*Adjournment in Memory of  
Mayor of Methuen Neil Patrick Perry.*

The Senator from Essex, Mr. Payano, moved that when the Senate recesses today, it do so in the memory of a remarkable public servant, a proud Methuen native, and a dear colleague, Mayor of Methuen Neil Patrick Perry.

Mayor Perry passed away on September 21, 2024, at the age of 66. His passing is a profound loss for the city of Methuen and for all of us who had the honor of working alongside him. Neil dedicated his life to serving others, and his legacy is one of integrity, compassion, and unwavering commitment to the community he called home.

Born and raised in Methuen, Neil's roots in the city ran deep. He graduated from Central Catholic High School, earned a degree in Elementary Education and Spanish from the UMass Lowell, and returned to serve his hometown as a bilingual educator in the Methuen Public Schools. He taught at Corliss, Central, and Oakland Avenue schools, where he uplifted and inspired his students through care, patience, and an unshakable belief in their potential.

After leaving the classroom, Neil built a successful career in the private sector that spanned more than three decades. During that time, he earned his MBA in Accounting at Southern New Hampshire University and continued sharing his knowledge as an adjunct professor at Northern Essex Community College. Education remained close to his heart, no matter where his professional path led him.

In 2019, Neil was elected Mayor of Methuen. For him, this was not just a job, but a calling. He stepped into leadership at a time of unprecedented challenges and immediately worked to bring transparency, accountability, and steady guidance to City Hall. His leadership during the COVID-19 pandemic provided a sense of calm and purpose in a moment filled with uncertainty.

He fulfilled his campaign promises through hard work, thoughtful governance, and consistent persistence on behalf of his community. Whether advocating for infrastructure improvements, strengthening city finances, or working to improve local schools, Neil approached each task with humility and focus.

Even as he faced personal health challenges, Neil remained devoted to his role. He showed up to city events, responded to constituents, and kept moving forward with optimism and resolve. He served as a mayor who did not separate himself from the people. He was in the community, listening, responding, and standing beside those he represented.

Neil also gave his time and heart to organizations that brought Methuen together. He supported the Methuen Festival of Trees, coached girls' softball at St. Theresa's, and served with the Methuen Historical Society. He celebrated his Irish heritage with pride and was a familiar face at community events that highlighted the city's culture and traditions.

He was most proud of his four children, Colin, Kieran, Matthew, and Sean. They were his greatest joy. He cherished quiet moments at Wells Beach, weekend visits with his dog Marcy, and cheering on the Boston Bruins. Neil understood that service began at home, and his love for his family shaped the person and leader he was. I would like to take a moment to recognize Sean and Matthew along with Matthew's partner Shannon Keating who have joined us here in the chamber today.

Madame President, Neil Perry gave Methuen his full self. He was a public servant in the truest sense, someone who showed up, listened, and did the hard work with no expectation of praise. His impact can be felt across every corner of the city. He led with a full heart, and his memory will continue to guide those of us who believe in service, justice, and community.

In my very first official meeting with Mayor Perry, he told me he had two asks: “Make sure the delegation works as a team, and show me the money.” That was his way of getting straight to what mattered most, unity and results.

Mr. Mayor, I hope you’re proud of what we’ve accomplished. Methuen is stronger and more united because of your leadership. I hope you’re smiling from above and saying, “Now that’s more like it.”

May his legacy live on in the city he loved and in the many lives he touched.

*Adjournment in Memory of Katherine “Kitty” Dukakis.*

The Senators Ms. Creem, Ms. Spilka and Mr. Collins; Messrs. Barrett, Brady and Brownsberger, Ms. Comerford, Messrs. Cronin, Cyr and DiDomenico, Ms. Edwards, Messrs. Fattman, Feeney, Fernandes and Finegold, Ms. Friedman, Ms. Jehlen, Messrs. Keenan and Kennedy, Ms. Kennedy, Mr. Lewis, Ms. Lovely, Ms. Miranda, Messrs. Montigny, Moore and Oliveira, Ms. Rausch and Messrs. Rush, Tarr and Velis, moved that when the Senate recesses today, it does so in memory of Katherine “Kitty” Dukakis, who passed away on March 21, 2025, at the age of 88.

Kitty was the former First Lady of Massachusetts and wife of former Massachusetts Governor and Democratic Nominee for President, Michael Dukakis.

Kitty was widely known for her advocacy on issues ranging from mental health to the rights of refugee children. She will be remembered for her groundbreaking contributions to these conversations, both locally and internationally, and for using her platform to fight the stigma surrounding mental health issues and give voice to many of the most marginalized amongst us.

Kitty was born in 1936 in Cambridge, Massachusetts and grew up in Brookline, Massachusetts. Her father, Harry Ellis Dickson, was the associate conductor of the Boston Pops and the first violinist in the Boston Symphony Orchestra. After graduating from Brookline High School, Kitty studied and taught modern dance at Lesley College and at the Brookline Arts Center. She earned degrees in education, broadcasting and social work, and later worked for a period as a social worker in California.

In 1963, she married Michael Dukakis, who also grew up in Brookline, and they maintained an enviable and strong partnership throughout their decades of marriage.

Kitty was known for her influential role in Michael’s campaigns and time in office. Once he became Governor of Massachusetts, where he served for three terms beginning in 1975, Kitty had a strong presence in the State House and frequently weighed in on issues she cared deeply about.

Kitty was proudly Jewish and a strong supporter of expanding Holocaust education both in schools and in the broader community. She was appointed to the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Commission by President Carter in 1979 and was later reappointed by President George H.W. Bush. After the U.S. Holocaust Museum was built, Kitty served on the President’s Commission on the Holocaust, and on the board of directors of the Refugee Policy Group.

Her human rights advocacy on the Holocaust also drew her attention to other marginalized groups, including refugees from the Vietnam and Cambodian conflicts. She was active for years with the Lutheran Service Association, helping to bring abandoned children from overseas refugee camps into foster homes in the United States. She also organized a Task Force on Cambodian Children and formed a mission to Thailand where



she worked to release 250 orphans to the United States most of whom settled in Massachusetts.

In her life, Kitty also broke barriers by speaking openly about her struggles with substance use and depression. At a time when mental health was not widely discussed, she spoke freely about her experiences and strived to make herself available to others living through similar hardships. In countless ways, Kitty lived her life in service to others and helped innumerable people from all corners of the globe.

Kitty is survived by Michael, her husband of 63 years, her son, John Dukakis, daughters, Andrea and Kara Dukakis, grandchildren, Ali Dukakis, Peter Dukakis, Sofia Dukakis, Alana Dukakis, Niko Hereford, Olivia Onek and Nora Onek. Kitty was preceded in death by granddaughter Jobie Hereford.

Accordingly, as a mark of respect to the memory of Neil Patrick Perry and Katherine “Kitty” Dukakis, at nine minutes before eight o’clock P.M., on motion of Mr. Fernandes, the Senate recessed to meet again tomorrow at ten o’clock A.M.

Thursday, May 22, 2025  
[being the legislative session of Tuesday, May 20, 2025.]

Met at six minutes past ten o'clock A.M. (Mr. Brownsberger in the Chair).

The Chair (Mr. Brownsberger), members, guests and staff then recited the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Pledge of  
allegiance.

*Distinguished Guests.*

There being no objection, during consideration of the Orders of the Day, the following guests were introduced:

The Chair (Mr. Brownsberger) handed the gavel to Ms. Lovely for the purpose of an introduction. Ms. Lovely then introduced, in the rear of the Chamber, the 8<sup>th</sup> grade class from the Collins Middle School in Salem. The group was visiting the State House as part of their Action Civics Program and were learning about the different aspects of state government. The students were accompanied by Tia Brown, Manny Brito, Christian Buckley, Deb Trammell, Maureen Hagen, Brittany Uminski, Nichole Perez, Brad Maloon, Barb McLernon, Romario Berneche, and Elena Rodriguez-DePaul. The Senate welcomed them with applause and they withdrew from the Chamber.

Collins Middle  
School.

The Chair (Mr. Brownsberger) handed the gavel to Mr. O'Connor for the purpose of introducing several guests.

Mr. O'Connor introduced, in the rear of the Chamber, members of the Weymouth Veterans Council. Among the group were: Genie Boland, Jerry Burke, Frank Burke, Stephen Carita, Mei Hing Chu, Phil Dow, Brad Hultman, George Pontes and Arthur Sharpe. The Weymouth Veterans' Council works tirelessly to ensure that proper recognition is given to those citizens of Weymouth who have fought for our freedom, and they were visiting the State House to continue the annual tradition of laying a wreath at the Ralph Talbot Plaque outside of the House Chambers. The Senate thanked the veterans for their service to our nation, welcomed them with applause and they withdrew from the Chamber.

Weymouth  
Veterans Council.

Mr. O'Connor then introduced, in the rear of the Chamber, students from the Nash Primary School in Weymouth. The students were on a field trip to the State House learning about the different aspects of state government. The Senate welcomed them with applause and they withdrew from the Chamber.

Nash Primary  
School.

The Chair (Ms. Creem) handed the gavel to Mr. Collins for the purpose of an introduction. Mr. Collins then introduced, in the rear of the Chamber, Sokthea Phay, the Executive Director Wang YMCA of Chinatown - Y of Greater Boston. Mr. Phay was recognized for being the first Khmer-American YMCA Executive Director in the United States. He was accompanied by Assistant Vice President at Citizens Bank Silavong Phimmason and Regional Teen Director Asian American Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander-ERG Chair YMCA of Greater Boston Wendy Jamsri. The Senate welcomed them with applause and they withdrew from the Chamber.

Sokthea Phay.

*Report.*

Report of the Massachusetts Special Commission on State Institutions (pursuant to Section 144 of Chapter 126 of the Acts of 2022) submitting its 2025 report on the history of state institutions for people with intellectual or developmental disabilities or mental health conditions in the commonwealth (copies having been forwarded to the Senate Chairs of the Joint Committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities and the Joint

Special  
Commission on  
State Institutions  
2025 report.  
SD2926

Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery ) (received May 22, 2025),--  
was placed on file.

*Committee Discharged.*

Ms. Edwards, for the committee on the Judiciary, reported, asking to be discharged from further consideration of the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1190) of Mark C. Montigny, John F. Keenan, Michael O. Moore, Michael D. Brady and other members of the General Court for legislation to enhance the issuance of citations for cruel conditions for animals,-- and recommending that the same be referred to the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.

Animal cruelty,--  
citations.

**Under Senate Rule 36, the report was considered forthwith and accepted.  
Sent to the House for concurrence.**

*Orders of the Day.*

The Orders of the Day were further considered as follows:

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. 4001),-- was further considered, the main question being on ordering the bill to a third reading.

General  
appropriations bill.

Ms. Jehlen, Messrs. Gómez and Moore, Ms. Kennedy, Messrs. Eldridge, Lewis and Mark, Ms. Miranda, Ms. Edwards and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7004-0108, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that the executive office shall not require families to be evicted from their existing housing or to otherwise establish that they fall into one of the four categories of affirmative eligibility for emergency assistance shelter currently listed in item 7004-0101”.

90

The amendment was *rejected*.

Ms. Edwards and Mr. Gómez moved that the proposed new text be amended by striking out section 38 and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

187

“SECTION 38. Section 15B of chapter 186 of the General Laws, as most recently amended by section 50 of chapter 150 of the acts of 2024, is hereby further amended by inserting after the word “lessor”, in line 16, the following words:- ‘or agent of the lessor’.”

*Remarks of Senator Lydia Edwards.*

Thank you. This essentially right-sizes and corrects a system error. We are normally used to standing out from other states for many good things, but today we stand out from other cities and states because we allow for the system of broker’s fees. It means a ridiculous amount of money just to get into an apartment. And that is for the landlord’s benefit. This doesn’t ban broker’s fees. It makes sure the person who contracts and gets the benefit of the broker pays the fee. So it encourages landlords to pay those fees, but it doesn’t ban a tenant who maybe is coming from across the country and can’t go to many apartments themselves from hiring a broker and having the tenant pay the broker. We want to make sure we’re not standing out anymore. New York got rid of it last year. I want to dive into why this is so important. Members of my own staff, young people here, are frozen in their own apartments. They would love to move and not face a rent increase, but they would need \$12,000 to move into a new apartment. It brings back competition. Me, as a landlord, I will negotiate with brokers to get the best deal. I’m in a position of power to do that. Who is not in a position of power is the poor person who clicks on a link thinking they can afford the apartment then realizes they have to pay this broker fee to be competitive, or the person using RAFT. The language is very clear, you’re able to contract with somebody or engage with that person

Remarks of Senator  
Lydia Edwards.

and you've engaged with that person for their service you will pay for those services. On the back and forth on these bills, I want to be clear, the intention is not to create a loophole. The goal again is that the person who engages, gets the services, is the one who pays. A lot of our housing policy is years from now. A lot of our housing policy will take decades before we see a dip in the rents. It will take time to build the units we need. Money in pockets is how we tell people in the commonwealth that we support them. I ask for your support.”

On motion of Mr. Eldridge, under the provisions of Senate Rule 6A, the remarks were printed in the Journal of the Senate.

Ordered printed.

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

Mr. Gómez, Ms. Rausch, Messrs. Moore, Keenan, Driscoll, Payano, Collins and O'Connor and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7035-0035, by striking out the figure “\$2,000,320” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$3,392,809”.

629

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Collins and Ms. Miranda moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section 7 the following section:-

786

“SECTION 7A. Chapter 10 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out section 35III, as amended by section 16 of chapter 140 of the acts of 2024, and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

Section 35III. There shall be established and set up on the books of the commonwealth a separate, non-budgeted special revenue fund known as the Old Harbor Reservation Trust Fund, which shall be administered by the department of conservation and recreation. Amounts credited to the fund shall be expended, without further appropriation, for the purposes of advancing recreational, educational, conservation, public health and safety interests, including, but not limited to, dedicated environmental police and ranger staffing, maintenance staff, construction and maintenance of facilities and infrastructure improvements, of the Old Harbor reservation area, including, but not limited to, Castle island, Pleasure bay, McDonough sailing center, Marine park, Murphy memorial skating rink, M street beach, Carson beach, Day boulevard and Columbia road, in the South Boston section of the city of Boston.

The fund shall receive, hold and expend all fees generated by permits, licenses and all other agreements not currently directed to the General Fund relating to the use of department of conservation and recreation assets, facilities and land within the Old Harbor reservation. Any unexpended balance in the fund at the end of a fiscal year shall remain available for expenditure in subsequent fiscal years. Annually, not later than July 31, the department shall submit a report, which shall include, but shall not be limited to, an accounting of all funds generated for the trust and expenditures for the previous fiscal year, to the house and senate committees on ways and means. The department shall not make expenditures from this fund which shall cause the fund to be deficient.”; and

By inserting after section 71 the following section:-

“SECTION 71A. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, any funds previously transferred to or existing in the Castle Island and Marine Park Trust Fund shall be transferred to the Old Harbor Reservation Trust Fund established under section 35III of chapter 10 of the General Laws.”.

After remarks, the question on adoption of the amendment was determined by a call of the yeas and nays at twenty-nine minutes before twelve o'clock noon, on motion of Mr. Collins, as follows, to wit (yeas 39 – nays 0) **[Yeas and Nays No. 41]**:

**YEAS.**

Barrett, Michael J.  
Brady, Michael D.

Gómez, Adam  
Jehlen, Patricia D.

Brownsberger, William N.  
Collins, Nick  
Comerford, Joanne M.  
Creem, Cynthia Stone  
Crighton, Brendan P.  
Cronin, John J.  
Cyr, Julian  
DiDomenico, Sal N.  
Dooner, Kelly A.  
Driscoll, Jr., William J.  
Durant, Peter J.  
Edwards, Lydia  
Eldridge, James B.  
Fattman, Ryan C.  
Feeney, Paul R.  
Fernandes, Dylan A.  
Finegold, Barry R.  
Friedman, Cindy F.

Keenan, John F.  
Kennedy, Edward J.  
Kennedy, Robyn K.  
Lewis, Jason M.  
Lovely, Joan B.  
Mark, Paul W.  
Miranda, Liz  
Montigny, Mark C.  
Moore, Michael O.  
O'Connor, Patrick M.  
Oliveira, Jacob R.  
Payano, Pavel  
Rausch, Rebecca L.  
Rodrigues, Michael J.  
Rush, Michael F.  
Tarr, Bruce E.  
Velis, John C. – 39.

**NAYS – 0.**

The yeas and nays having been completed at twenty-two minutes before twelve o'clock noon, the amendment was adopted.

Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 1599-0026, by inserting the following:- “; provided further, that not less than \$243,000 shall be expended for water line improvements along Route 138 in the town of Raynham”; and by striking out the figure “\$10,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$10,243,000”.

837

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 1599-0026, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$234,000 shall be expended for the design, site assessment, and estimated construction costs associated with the development of a proposed groundwater discharge site and secondary discharge for the city of Taunton’s wastewater treatment facility, which serves as a regional sewer system supporting Taunton, Raynham, Dighton, and portions of Norton”; and by striking out the figure “\$10,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$10,234,000”.

1036

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Montigny and O'Connor, Mrs. Dooner and Ms. Edwards moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following sections:-

924

“SECTION X. Section 30 of chapter 23B is hereby amended by inserting at the end of subsection (F) the following sentence:-

Every hotel or motel under contract to provide emergency housing assistance under this section shall establish a human trafficking recognition training program and require every employee of such accommodation to participate in said program pursuant to section 6C of chapter 140.

SECTION XX. Chapter 140 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after section 6B the following section:-

Section 6C.

(a) For the purposes of this section, 'qualified accommodation' shall mean a hotel, motel, lodging house or bed and breakfast establishment, as defined in section 1 of chapter 64G, except for accommodations exempt from the room occupancy excise pursuant to section 2 of said chapter 64G.



(b) Every licensed innholder operating a qualified accommodation shall establish a human trafficking recognition training program, and shall require every employee of such accommodation to participate in the training program. The training program shall be approved by the attorney general, and may be provided by organizations or providers approved by the attorney general pursuant to subsection (d). The training program may be developed by a federal, state or nonprofit organization, and may be incorporated as part of the innholder's existing training programs. Human trafficking recognition training programs required pursuant to this section shall include, but shall not be limited to training relative to:

- (i) the nature of human trafficking;
- (ii) how human trafficking is defined pursuant to the federal Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000;
- (iii) how to identify victims of human trafficking, as defined pursuant to the federal Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000;
- (iv) how to appropriately respond to a known or suspected case of human trafficking, as defined pursuant to the federal Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000.

(c) Every licensed innholder operating a qualified accommodation shall post in plain view, in the lobby and in any public restroom of such qualified accommodation, a written notice developed by the attorney general, which shall include the national human trafficking hotline telephone number.

(d) The attorney general shall:

- (i) make available a list of approved human trafficking recognition training programs for use by a licensed innholder operating a qualified accommodation pursuant to this section;
- (ii) develop a standard written notice to be posted in every qualified accommodation pursuant to subsection (c).

(e) The attorney general shall promulgate regulations necessary to implement this section.”

After debate, the question on adoption of the amendment was determined by a call of the yeas and nays at nineteen minutes before one o'clock P.M., on motion of Mr. Montigny, as follows, to wit (yeas 12 – nays 28) **[Yeas and Nays No. 42]:**

**YEAS.**

Collins, Nick  
Dooner, Kelly A.  
Driscoll, Jr., William J.  
Durant, Peter J.  
Eldridge, James B.  
Fattman, Ryan C.

Gómez, Adam  
Montigny, Mark C.  
Moore, Michael O.  
O'Connor, Patrick M.  
Tarr, Bruce E.  
Velis, John C. – **12.**

**NAYS.**

Barrett, Michael J.  
Brady, Michael D.  
Brownsberger, William N.  
Comerford, Joanne M.  
Creem, Cynthia Stone  
Crighton, Brendan P.  
Cronin, John J.  
Cyr, Julian  
DiDomenico, Sal N.  
Edwards, Lydia  
Feeney, Paul R.

Jehlen, Patricia D.  
Keenan, John F.  
Kennedy, Edward J.  
Kennedy, Robyn K.  
Lewis, Jason M.  
Lovely, Joan B.  
Mark, Paul W.  
Miranda, Liz  
Oliveira, Jacob R.  
Payano, Pavel  
Rausch, Rebecca L.

Fernandes, Dylan A.  
Finegold, Barry R.  
Friedman, Cindy F.

Rodrigues, Michael J.  
Rush, Michael F.  
Spilka, Karen E. – 28.

The yeas and nays having been completed at eleven minutes before one o'clock P.M., the amendment was *rejected*.

*Recess.*

There being no objection, at nine minutes before one o'clock P.M. the Chair (Mr. Brownsberger) declared a recess, subject to the call of the Chair; and, at twenty-four minutes past three o'clock P.M., the Senate reassembled, Ms. Creem in the Chair.

Recess.

*Orders of the Day.*

The Orders of the Day were further considered as follows:

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. 4001),-- was further considered, the main question being on ordering the bill to a third reading.

General  
appropriations bill.

**There being no objection, the following amendments were considered as one, and adopted, as follows**

Ms. Friedman, Mr. Cyr, Ms. Kennedy, Messrs. Payano, Mark and Gómez, Ms. Rausch, Ms. Jehlen, Messrs. Eldridge and Driscoll and Ms. Edwards moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7004-0101, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not later than September 15, 2025, the secretary of housing and livable communities shall submit a report to the joint committee on housing, the joint committee on children, families and persons with disabilities, the house and senate committees on ways and means and the clerks of the senate and house of representatives on the status of the applicability of paragraph (G) of said section 30 of said chapter 23B and the justification for such status, including, but not limited to, the number of families in emergency assistance shelter, the current and projected caseload of eligible families applying for or residing in emergency assistance shelter for the fiscal year, the current and estimated capacity of the shelter system for the fiscal year, the average shelter exits in the past 7 and 14 days and the average shelter intakes in the past 7 and 14 days; provided further, that the secretary of housing and livable communities shall provide notice to the joint committee on housing, the joint committee on children, families and persons with disabilities and the house and senate committees on ways and means not later than 15 days prior to any change to the applicability of said paragraph (G) of said section 30 of said chapter 23B”.

156

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Mark, Velis, Cronin, Moore, Eldridge, Gómez, Oliveira, Durant, Payano, Fattman and Fernandes, Ms. Rausch, Messrs. Collins and O'Connor, Ms. Edwards, Ms. Kennedy, Mr. Tarr, Ms. Lovely and Messrs. Cyr and Kennedy moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section 9 the following section:-

169

“SECTION 9A. Section 14 of chapter 23A of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by inserting after the word “section”, in line 38, the following words:-; provided, however, that this restriction shall not apply to matching funds from nongovernmental sources or to funds expended for attendance and participation in trade shows to promote tourism, convention, travel and recreation in the commonwealth or to host tour operators and media visits to the commonwealth.”

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Tarr moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_ the

260

following section:-

“SECTION\_. Section 198 of Chapter 140 of the Acts of 2024 is hereby amended by striking out the words ‘June 30, 2025’ and inserting in place thereof the following words:- ‘June 30, 2026’.”

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Tarr, Finegold and Payano moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2200-0100, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended to the Merrimack River Watershed Council, Inc. for a regional approach to reducing combined sewer overflows in the Merrimack river; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for the Cape Ann Climate Coalition Inc for preemptive strategic planning for post-disaster recovery; provided further than not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for TownGreen, Inc. for a regional climate resilience convening program”; and by striking out the figure “\$54,120,855” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$54,270,855”.

316

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Tarr, O'Connor and Cyr and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2030-1000, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$200,000 shall be expended for the protection of right whales by increasing the patrols of the office and its officers’ ability to identify and remove abandoned fishing gear and to enhance their ability to enforce speed restrictions through use of drone technologies to minimize potentially harmful interactions between vessels and right whales”; and by striking out the figure “\$16,875,354” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$17,075,354”.

317

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Tarr and Cyr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2330-0100, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$175,000 shall be expended for marsh restoration and revitalization including, but not limited to: (i) a green crab trapping program for applied research and product development; (ii) high-resolution drone mapping of deterioration of the Great marsh; (iii) the continuation of microplastic and macroplastic sampling; and (iv) academic study and processing for water column, beach environment, marsh peat and eel grass”; and by striking out the figure “\$9,639,804” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$9,814,804”.

318

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Tarr, Ms. Rausch and Messrs. Montigny, Durant, Eldridge, Fernandes, O'Connor and Cyr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2330-0100, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to establish a program to collect and remove derelict gear; provided further, that not less than \$60,000 shall be expended for the operation of the commercial fisheries commission established under section 79 of chapter 179 of the acts of 2022”; and by striking out the figure “\$9,639,804” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$9,749,804”.

322

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Tarr and Finegold moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4510-0615, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$125,000 may be expended for the C-10 Research and Education Foundation, Inc. to provide radiological monitoring in the 6 communities of the commonwealth that are within the plume exposure emergency planning zone of the Seabrook nuclear power plant”.

392

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Tarr and Finegold moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2511-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$75,000 shall be expended to facilitate capacity expansion for the Open Door food pantry

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serving the cities of Gloucester and Lynn and the towns of Rockport, Essex, Manchester-by-the-Sea, Ipswich, Rowley, Topsfield, Boxford, Hamilton and Wenham; provided further, that not less than \$75,000 shall be expended for capacity expansion and innovative food storage and delivery programs for Our Neighbors' Table, Inc. serving the cities of Amesbury and Newburyport, the town of Salisbury and other communities in northeastern Essex county"; and by striking the figure "\$100,000" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$250,000".

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Tarr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4590-1503, by adding the following words:- "; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for the deployment and promotion of a software application accessible by cell phones, computers, tablets and other electronic devices to enable the public to identify, evaluate and access resources for maternal and infant health including, but not limited to, mental and physical healthcare, transportation, nutrition and housing"; and by striking out the figure "\$13,853,103" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$13,953,103".

470

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Gómez, Cyr, Collins and Moore, Ms. Kennedy, Messrs. Eldridge, Keenan and Lewis, Ms. Edwards, Messrs. Mark and Payano, Ms. Rausch, Ms. Jehlen, Ms. Miranda and Mr. Oliveira moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7004-0107, by adding the following words:- "; provided further, that not later than 90 days following the effective date of this act, the executive office of housing and livable communities, in consultation with family homelessness service providers, advocates, the house and senate chairs of the joint committee on children, families and persons with disabilities and the house and senate chairs of the joint committee on housing, shall create a plan to divert families from emergency assistance shelter including, but not limited to, reducing barriers to the residential assistance for families in transition program, the HomeBASE household assistance and other shelter diversion programs; provided further, that the plan shall include, but not be limited to: (i) programmatic and fiscal information on the most effective and cost-effective state programs and investments for the prevention of family homelessness; (ii) various benefit levels and eligibility criteria for the commonwealth's shelter diversion and prevention programs and how said criteria impact housing stability; (iii) an evaluation of changes to the benefit levels and eligibility criteria for the commonwealth's shelter diversion and prevention programs including, but not limited to: (a) establishing alternative criteria for the residential assistance for families in transition program that shall be in lieu of requiring the notice to quit or summary process summons and complaint; and (b) removing the requirement of emergency assistance eligibility established in section 30 of chapter 23B of the General Laws for the HomeBASE household assistance program; (iv) a detailed cost analysis of the changes evaluated in clause (iii), including the projected savings to the emergency assistance shelter program from providing increased access to homelessness prevention and diversion programs, which shall include data on the rate at which families are denied residential assistance for families in transition and within 6 months enter the emergency shelter system and shall consider regional differences in the costs of housing; and (v) proposed legislative or regulatory recommendations on new or existing programs to prevent or divert homelessness and the projected cost or savings of such recommendations; provided further, that the plan shall be submitted to the clerks of the house of representatives and senate, the house and senate committees on ways and means, the joint committee on housing and the joint committee on children, families and persons with disabilities".

557

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Durant, Fattman, Moore, Tarr and Oliveira, Mrs. Dooner, Messrs. O'Connor

766

and Kennedy, Ms. Lovely and Ms. Edwards moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7004-0099, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for the operation of the stakeholder working group established in section 73A”; and by striking out the figure “\$15,573,388” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$15,673,388”; and

By inserting after section 13 the following section:-

“SECTION 13A. Chapter 29 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 2JJJJJ the following section:-

Section 2KKKKKK. (a) There shall be established and set up on the books of the commonwealth a separate, non-budgeted special revenue fund known as the Crumbling Concrete Assistance Fund, which shall be administered by the secretary of housing and livable communities. 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 and private sources, including, but not limited to, gifts, grants, donations and settlements received by the commonwealth that are specifically designated to be credited to the fund; (iii) federal funds received under subsection (b); and (iv) interest earned on the assets of the fund. Amounts credited to the fund shall be expended, without further appropriation, to: (A) provide financial assistance to owners of residential real property for the repair or replacement of concrete foundations of such residential real property that have deteriorated due to the presence of pyrite or pyrrhotite; (B) minimize negative fiscal impacts on municipalities in which such property is located; and (C) reimburse the owner of a residential real property that presents satisfactory evidence, as determined by the secretary, that said owner has paid for and replaced their concrete foundation that deteriorated due to the presence of pyrite or pyrrhotite prior to the establishment of the fund; provided, however, that the reimbursement shall not exceed the funding the owner would have received had they applied for financial assistance through the fund. The unexpended balance in the fund at the end of a fiscal year shall remain available for expenditure in subsequent fiscal years. No expenditure made from the fund shall cause the fund to be in deficit at any point.

(b) The secretary of housing and livable communities may apply for, receive and deposit any federal funds, including, but not limited to, funds made available by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development Section 108 Loan Guarantee program, into the fund. The secretary shall seek to maximize available federal reimbursements for money spent from the fund.

(c) Amounts issued from the fund to impacted homeowners for the repair or replacement of concrete foundations that have deteriorated due to the presence of pyrrhotite shall be exempt from taxation under chapter 62.

(d) Annually, not later than June 1, the secretary of housing and livable communities shall report on the activities of the fund from the previous calendar year to the clerks of the senate and house of representatives, the senate and house committees on ways and means, the joint committee on environment and natural resources and the joint committee on housing.

(e) The secretary of housing and livable communities shall promulgate regulations or issue other guidance to set rules for the expenditure of the funds under this section.”; and

By inserting after section 73 the following section:-

“SECTION 73A. The secretary of housing and livable communities shall convene a stakeholder working group to make recommendations for regulatory and legislative change necessary to comprehensively address the remediation of residential property foundations that have deteriorated due to the presence of pyrite or pyrrhotite. The working group shall convene not later than 30 days after the effective date of this act and shall include: the secretary of housing and livable communities or a designee, who shall serve as chair; the



secretary of transportation or a designee; the undersecretary of consumer affairs and business regulation or a designee; the commissioner of insurance or a designee; the commissioner of banks or a designee; 2 members appointed by the attorney general who shall have experience in advocating for homeowners and consumers; the house and senate chairs and house and senate ranking minority members of the joint committee on environment and natural resources; 2 representatives of Massachusetts Residents Against Crumbling Foundations; a representative of Massachusetts Concrete & Aggregate Producers Association, Inc; a representative of Massachusetts Municipal Association, Inc.; a representative of the Massachusetts Insurance Federation, Inc.; and a representative of the Massachusetts Mortgage Bankers Association, Inc.

The working group shall examine: (i) which executive office, department, agency or bureau within an executive office, if any, is best equipped to administer a program to assist residential property owners impacted by the presence of pyrite or pyrrhotite, including administering the Crumbling Concrete Assistance Fund established under section 2KKKKKK of chapter 29 of the General Laws, or which executive office or department is best equipped to oversee a new agency or bureau; (ii) relevant models to assist impacted homeowners, including, but not limited to, a captive insurance company, a supplemental loan program, an interstate agreement with a captive insurance company with expertise in assessing residential property foundation claims, property tax abatement and waiving local and state permit fees; (iii) models to fund the Crumbling Concrete Assistance Fund, including, but not limited to: (A) insurance surcharges on certain homeowners insurance policies, not to exceed \$12 annually, and when and on which policies the surcharge would apply and (B) other sources of state and federal funding opportunities; and (iv) methods to improve consumer protection through means such as disclosures, appointment of a homeowner advocate within a department, agency or bureau to assist impacted homeowners or consumer education.

The working group shall submit its report and any recommendations to the clerks of the senate and house of representatives, the joint committee on environment and natural resources, the joint committee on housing and the senate and house committees on ways and means not later than December 31, 2025.”

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Oliveira, Ms. Rausch, Messrs. O'Connor and Keenan and Ms. Edwards moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section 36 the following 9 sections:-

770

“SECTION 36A. Section 12 of chapter 138 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out, in lines 119 to 121, inclusive, the words ‘and irrespective of any limitation of number of licenses contained in section seventeen’.

SECTION 36B. Said section 12 of said chapter 138, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by adding the following 4 paragraphs:-

A new license issued pursuant to this section in response to an application filed after January 1, 2026, pursuant to the municipal plan as required by section 17, shall be non-transferable and no licensing authority shall approve the transfer of such license.

If a license issued pursuant to this section is cancelled, revoked or no longer in use by the license holder, the license shall be returned physically, with all of the legal rights, privileges and restrictions pertaining thereto to the licensing authority.

If a license holder closes or terminates the license holder’s business or sells or transfers the license holder’s business, the license holder shall return the license physically, with all of the legal rights, privileges and restrictions pertaining thereto to the licensing authority.

SECTION 36C. The first paragraph of section 14 of said chapter 138, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out the first sentence and inserting in place thereof the following sentence:- ‘Special licenses for the sale of all alcoholic beverages or wine and malt beverages only may be issued, as determined by the municipality, by the local licensing

authorities to the responsible manager of any indoor or outdoor activity or enterprise or to the responsible manager of any nonprofit organization conducting any indoor or outdoor activity or enterprise.’

SECTION 36D. Section 16A of said chapter 138, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 12, the word ‘so’ and inserting in place thereof the following words:- ‘as determined by a municipality to be’.

SECTION 36E. Said section 16A of said chapter 138, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by striking out, in lines 15 and 16, the words ‘, to the extent that the same are issuable under section seventeen’.

SECTION 36F. Said section 16A of said chapter 138, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by striking out, in line 19, the words ‘for the purposes of section seventeen’.

SECTION 36G. Section 17 of said chapter 138, as amended by section 1 of chapter 202 of the acts of 2024, is hereby further amended by striking out the first 8 paragraphs and inserting in place thereof the following 3 paragraphs:-

‘A city or town shall determine the number of all alcoholic beverage or wines and malt beverage licenses to be issued by its local licensing authority under sections 12, 14 and 15F, including the number of seasonal licenses; provided, however, that for licenses issued under section 15, cities and towns may grant 1 such license for each population unit of 5,000 or any additional fraction thereof but may, regardless of population, grant at least 2 licenses under said section 15; provided, however, that nothing in this section shall limit the city of Boston from granting at least 250 licenses for the sale of all alcoholic beverages under said section 15.

A city or town shall adopt and may amend a plan that is approved by the mayor and city council or select board, which shall determine the process for granting additional licenses; provided, however, that prior to adopting or amending the plan: (i) at least 1 public hearing regarding the plan shall be conducted by the city council, select board or legislative body of the city or town; and (ii) the city or town shall notify the alcoholic beverages control commission of the public hearing.

The mayor and city council or select board of a city or town shall hold a public hearing regarding a license application within 30 days of the date the application is filed.’

SECTION 36H. Sections 17A to 17C, inclusive, of said chapter 138 are hereby repealed.

SECTION 36I. Section 29 of said chapter 138, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out, in lines 22 to 24, inclusive, the words ‘; but a license issued to a registered pharmacist under said section shall be included in computing the number of licenses that may be granted in any city or town as provided in section seventeen’.”; and

By inserting after section 87 the following section:-

“SECTION 87A. No plan by a city or town to change the number of licenses available under chapter 138 of the General Laws shall take effect prior to January 1, 2026. The number of licenses authorized under said chapter 138 for each city and town prior to January 1, 2026, shall remain unchanged unless changed by the mayor and city council or select board pursuant to a plan adopted under section 17 of said chapter 138.

In section 89, by striking out the words ‘and 32 to 34, inclusive’ and inserting in place thereof the following words:- ‘32 to 34, inclusive, and 36A to 36I, inclusive’.”

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Mark moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section 3 the following section:-

“SECTION 3A. Chapter 6 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 15CCCCCCC the following section:-

Section 15DDDDDDD. The governor shall annually issue a proclamation setting apart

July 11 as Bosnian Remembrance Day in recognition of the killing of more than 8,000 Bosniak civilians in Srebrenica during the Bosnian War and recommending that the day be observed in an appropriate manner by the people.”

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Fattman, Montigny and Tarr, Mrs. Dooner, Mr. O'Connor and Ms. Lovely moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section 36 the following 2 sections:-

865

“SECTION 36A. Section 52E of chapter 149 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by inserting after the definition of ‘Abusive behavior’ the following 2 definitions:-

‘Client employer’, a business entity that obtains or is provided workers to perform labor or services within its usual course of business from a third party including, but not limited to, a staffing agency as defined in section 159C.

‘Contract worker’, an individual who performs labor or services for a client employer but is not considered an employee under section 148B, including individuals who are contracted for work by client employers.

SECTION 36B. Said section 52E of said chapter 149, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by striking out, in line 36, the words ‘shall permit an employee’ and inserting in place thereof the following words:- ‘or a client employer shall permit an employee or a contract worker’.”

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Tarr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8000-0313, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$40,000 shall be expended for the acquisition of an ambulance for the town of Hamilton”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$140,000”.

954

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Tarr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 1599-0026, by adding the following words:- “; provided further that not less than \$35,000 shall be expended for the acquisition of an autonomous robotic lawnmower in the town of Topsfield”; and by striking out the figure “\$10,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$10,035,000”.

955

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Tarr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 1599-0026, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$30,000 shall be expended to the town of Essex for a study of Chebacco lake and its watershed in the town of Essex”; and by striking out the figure “\$10,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$10,030,000”.

956

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Tarr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$90,000 shall be expended for a feasibility study for a new elementary school on the site of the current Doyon elementary school in the town of Ipswich”; and by striking the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$190,000”.

957

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Tarr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 1599-0026, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$90,000 shall be expended for the planning, design, and construction of wastewater treatment plant upgrades in the city of Gloucester”; and by striking the figure “\$10,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$10,090,000”.

958

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Tarr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 1599-

959

0026, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$5,000 shall be expended for ADA compliance upgrades at the Manchester-by-the-Sea public library in the town of Manchester-by-the-Sea”; and by striking the figure “\$10,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$10,005,000”.

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Tarr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8000-0313, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$15,000 shall be expended for the purchase of an all-terrain vehicle for the Boxford Police Department in the town of Boxford”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$115,000”.

960

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Tarr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 1599-0026, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for a heating, ventilation and air conditioning system at the Rockport public library”; and by striking out the figure “\$10,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$10,050,000”.

961

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Tarr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 1599-0026, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$40,000 shall be expended for the purchase of a van for the council on aging in the city of Newburyport”; and by striking the figure “\$10,000,000”; and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$10,040,000”.

962

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Tarr and Finegold and Ms. Edwards moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$30,000 shall be expended for vaping detection equipment and vaping prevention at the North Andover public schools in the town of North Andover”; and by striking the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$130,000”.

963

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Tarr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less \$10,000 shall be expended for economic development in the town of Wenham”; and by striking out figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$110,000”.

964

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Tarr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 1599-0026, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$10,000 shall be expended for a storage unit at the Rowley Public Library in the town of Rowley”; and by striking the figure “\$10,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$10,010,000”.

971

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Tarr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$20,000 shall be expended for building demolition and site remediation by the town of Groveland of the property formerly occupied by the Valley Screw Company”; and by striking the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$120,000”.

978

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Tarr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$15,000 shall be expended for capital costs associated with preserving, operating and maintaining the Salisbury Beach carousel operated by the Salisbury Beach Pavilion Charitable Holding

991

Trust”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$115,000”.

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Tarr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8324-0050, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$20,000 shall be expended to the town of Newbury for a new cardiac monitor/defibrillators for the Newbury fire department”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$120,000”.

The amendment was adopted.

**As previously stated, the above amendments were considered as one and adopted.**

**There being no objection, the following amendments were considered as one, and rejected, as follows:**

Messrs. Tarr and Fattman and Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_ the following section:-

“SECTION\_. Notwithstanding any law, rule or regulation to the contrary, and to the extent consistent with federal law, the commonwealth shall not create, establish, adopt, or initiate any measure which would create an entitlement to any new publicly funded benefit for those not legally present in the United States, through law, rule, regulation, or other mechanism.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr and Fattman, Mrs. Dooner and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_ the following section:-

“SECTION\_. Not less than every three years, Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities shall study, analyze, and make determinations as to :

1. The number of housing units produced pursuant to Chapter 40A, S.3A of the general laws
2. The impacts on municipal water supplies, wastewater treatment, and transportation infrastructure of such units, and,
3. The impacts of the production of such units on the local school districts where such units are located.

And provided further, that the results of said study, analysis, and determinations shall be filed as a report with the clerks of the House and Senate, and the Joint Committee on Housing not later than December 31.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr, Fattman and Durant, Mrs. Dooner and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_ the following section:-

“SECTION\_. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, any funds expended for the purpose of providing services through the emergency housing assistance program shall be subject to a competitive bidding process.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Tarr moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_ the following section:-

“SECTION\_. Subclause (iii) of subsection (b) of section 15 of Chapter 239 is hereby amended by inserting after the word ‘denied’, the following words:- ‘provided that notice shall be given of such pending eviction, and the Department of Housing and Community Development shall expedite the processing of such applications’.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Tarr, Mrs. Dooner and Messrs. Durant, O'Connor and Driscoll moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_ the following section:-

“SECTION\_. Section 18 of Chapter 358 of the Acts of 2020 is hereby amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:-



(d) The Executive Office of housing and livable communities shall develop and promulgate regulations to allow a municipality affected by the zoning provisions of this section to appeal for relief from such provisions based on one or more of the following:

1. The inability to meet the drinking water supply requirements necessary to support the housing units authorized by such provisions

2. The inability to meet the wastewater treatment requirements necessary to support such units

3. The inability of municipal transportation infrastructure to safely accommodate increased population attributable to housing development pursuant to such provisions

4. Any adverse environmental impacts attributable to the developments of housing units pursuant to such provisions.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr, Fattman and Durant, Mrs. Dooner and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_\_\_ the following section:-

172

“SECTION \_\_\_\_ . Section 8 of chapter 30B of the general laws is hereby amended by adding the following at the end of the first paragraph thereof:- ‘, provided that such record shall include written findings specifying the cause and circumstances of the emergency, the reasons why it was not reasonably foreseeable, and any identifiable risks arising from not utilizing an emergency contract.’.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr, Fattman, Durant and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_\_\_ the following:-

183

“SECTION \_\_\_\_ . Section 8 of chapter 30B of the general laws is hereby amended by adding the following at the end thereof:- ‘, and shall also submit a copy of such record to the inspector general, for review, provided further, that the inspector general shall file a report containing the results of such review in a timely manner with the clerks of the House and Senate’.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr, Fattman and Durant, Mrs. Dooner and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_\_\_ the following section:-

252

“SECTION \_ . Section 25B of chapter 54 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by adding the following subsection:-

r) The commonwealth shall reimburse each city and town an amount sufficient to defray the mandated costs imposed on the city or town under this section; provided, however, that annually not later than September 15, the state auditor shall determine and deliver to the state secretary a statement of the incremental costs attributed to this section and costs incurred by each city and town in the previous fiscal year; and provided further, that this amount shall be limited to statutorily obligated expenses and shall not include incidental and subordinate local administration expenses as determined by the state auditor.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr, Fattman and Durant, Mrs. Dooner and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_ the following section:-

253

“SECTION \_ . The first paragraph of section 12 of chapter 11 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by inserting after the first sentence the following sentence:- The state auditor shall have access to employee credit card records for such accounts and shall ensure integrity and accountability of employee credit card usage.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Tarr moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_\_\_ the following sections:-

254

“SECTION 1. Section 31A of chapter 29 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding the following subsection:- (e) No employee

of the commonwealth shall be paid for more than 1,000 hours of unused sick leave credits.

SECTION 2. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, section \_ shall take effect for any employee of the commonwealth who has accrued not more than 1,000 hours of unused sick leave credits.

SECTION 3. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the personnel administrator of the human resources division shall promulgate revised rules under the second paragraph of section 28 of chapter 7 of the General Laws to incorporate the changes enacted in section 1.

SECTION 4. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, in the event of a conflict between section 1 and the terms of a collective bargaining agreement, the terms of the collective bargaining agreement shall prevail.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr and Durant, Mrs. Dooner and Messrs. O'Connor and Collins moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_ the following section:-

255

“SECTION\_. The comptroller shall develop, deploy, administer and maintain a public, searchable database containing information relative to contracts for consulting to which any agency of the commonwealth is a party, for which the total annual cost exceeds \$50,000, provided that such database shall include but not be limited to the agency procuring the contract and any agencies participating in its execution, the contract provider or vendor, the terms or language of the contract , the dates of award, beginning, and end of the contract, and, to the extent a contract is for the provision of personal services, the compensation for any person providing such services, which shall be detailed in like manner as the compensation information for state employees contained in the comptroller's 'open checkbook' system, so called, provided that such database shall be accessible to the public on a convenient electronic platform not later than May 1, 2026, and shall be updated to the maximum feasible extent, which shall be in increments of not less than 60 days.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr and Durant moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_ the following section:-

259

“SECTION\_. (a) As used in this section, the following words shall have the following meanings:

‘Board’, the pension reserves investment management board established in section 23 of chapter 32 of the General Laws.

‘Company’, any sole proprietorship, organization, association, corporation, partnership, joint venture, limited partnership, limited liability partnership, limited liability company or other entity or business association, including all wholly-owned subsidiaries, majority-owned subsidiaries, parent companies or affiliates of such entities or business associations that exist for profit-making purposes.

‘Direct holdings’, all securities of a company held directly by the public fund or in an account or fund in which the public fund owns all shares or interests.

‘Indirect holdings’, all securities of a company held in an account or fund including, but not limited to, a mutual fund, managed by persons not employed by the public fund, in which the public fund owns shares or interests together with other investors not subject to this section.

‘Public fund’, the Pension Reserves Investment Trust Fund or the pension reserves investment management board responsible for managing the pooled investment fund consisting of the assets of the state employees’ retirement system and the teachers’ retirement system and the assets of local retirement systems under the control of the board.

‘Scrutinized company’, a company that has: (i) is incorporated in another country; and (iii) not in compliance with the Holding Foreign Companies Accountable Act.

(b) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, within 90 days after

the effective date of this section, the public fund shall make its best efforts to facilitate the identification of all scrutinized companies in which the public fund has direct or indirect holdings. The identification of scrutinized companies shall be performed by an independent, third-party research firm selected by the public fund and based on the criteria set forth in this section. By the first meeting of the public fund following the 90-day period, the public fund shall assemble all scrutinized companies in which it has direct or indirect holdings into a scrutinized companies list. The public fund shall update the scrutinized companies list on a quarterly basis based on evolving information from the independent, third-party research firm.

(c)(1) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the public fund shall adhere to the procedure in paragraphs (2) to (4), inclusive, for companies on the scrutinized companies list.

(2) The public fund shall determine the companies on the scrutinized companies list prepared pursuant to subsection (b) in which the public fund owns direct or indirect holdings.

(3) The public fund shall sell, redeem, divest or withdraw all publicly-traded securities of a company identified in paragraph (2), except as provided in paragraph (6) and in subsection (e), according to the following schedule: (i) at least 50 per cent of such assets shall be removed from the public fund's assets under management within 6 months after the company's most recent appearance on the scrutinized companies list, subject to market availability; and (ii) 100 per cent of such assets shall be removed from the public fund's assets under management within 12 months after the company's most recent appearance on the scrutinized companies list, subject to market availability; provided, however, that this paragraph shall only apply until such company is removed from the scrutinized companies list.

(4) During the time period outlined in paragraph (3), the public fund may sign onto engagement letters or participate in shareholder resolutions regarding the scrutinized business operations of companies identified in paragraph (2) in which the public fund still owns direct or indirect holdings.

(5) At no time shall the public fund acquire securities of companies on the scrutinized companies list, except as provided in paragraphs (6) and (7).

(6) No company that the United States government affirmatively declares to be excluded from its present or future sanctions regime relating to the government of the incorporated company shall be subject to divestment or an investment prohibition under paragraphs (2) to (5), inclusive.

(7) Notwithstanding any provision of this section to the contrary, paragraphs (2) to (5), inclusive, shall not apply to indirect holdings in actively-managed investment funds; provided, however, that the public fund shall submit letters to the managers of such investment funds containing scrutinized companies requesting that they consider removing such companies from the investment fund or create a similar actively-managed fund with indirect holdings devoid of such companies. If the manager creates a similar fund, the public fund shall replace all applicable investments with investments in the similar fund in an expedited timeframe consistent with prudent investment standards. For the purposes of this section, private equity funds shall be deemed to be actively-managed investment funds.

(d) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, with respect to actions taken in compliance with this section, the public fund shall be exempt from any conflicting statutory or common law obligations, including any such obligation with respect to the choice of asset managers, investment funds or investments for the public fund's securities portfolios and all good faith determinations regarding companies as required by this section.

(e) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the public fund may cease divesting from certain scrutinized companies under paragraphs (2) to (4), inclusive,

of subsection (c), reinvest in certain scrutinized companies from which it divested under said paragraphs (2) to (4), inclusive, of said subsection (c) or continue to invest in certain scrutinized companies from which it has not yet divested upon clear and convincing evidence showing that the total and aggregate value of all assets under management by, or on behalf of, the public fund becomes: (i) equal to or less than 99.5 per cent; or (ii) 100 per cent less 50 basis points of the hypothetical value of all assets under management by, or on behalf of, the public fund assuming no divestment for any company had occurred under said paragraphs (2) to (4), inclusive, of said subsection (c). Cessation of divestment, reinvestment or any subsequent ongoing investment authorized by this subsection shall be strictly limited to the minimum steps necessary to avoid the contingency set forth in the preceding sentence.

For any cessation of divestment, and in advance of any such cessation, authorized by this subsection, the public fund shall provide a written report to the attorney general, the senate and house committees on ways and means and the joint committee on public service, which shall be updated semi-annually thereafter, as applicable, setting forth the reasons and justification, supported by clear and convincing evidence, for its decisions to cease divestment of holdings in companies on the scrutinized companies list or to reinvest or remain invested in companies on the scrutinized companies list.

(f) The public fund shall file a copy of the scrutinized companies list with the clerks of the senate and the house of representatives and the attorney general within 30 days after the list is prepared. Annually thereafter, the public fund shall file a report with the clerks of the senate and the house of representatives and the attorney general that shall include: (i) the most recent scrutinized companies list; (ii) all investments sold, redeemed, divested or withdrawn in compliance with paragraphs (2) to (4), inclusive, of subsection (c); (iii) all prohibited investments from which the public fund has not yet divested under paragraph (5) of said subsection (c); and (iv) any progress made under paragraph (7) of said subsection (c)."

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Tarr, Mrs. Dooner and Messrs. Durant and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_\_\_ the following section:-

274

"SECTION \_\_\_\_ . 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'."

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr, Durant and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting in section 71 in line 720 after the word, "ranking" the following word:- "minority".

299

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Fattman and Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_\_\_ the following section:-

303

"SECTION X. 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 their name and, if requested, their 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 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 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;

(vi) An affidavit signed under penalty of perjury.

(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.

SECTION X. Section X shall take effect on January 1, 2026."

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Tarr moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_ the following section:-

"SECTION \_ . Section 6 of chapter 23N of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out subsection (i) and inserting in place thereof the following subsection:-

(i) Applications for operator licenses shall be public records under section 10 of chapter 66; provided, however, that trade secrets, competitively-sensitive information or other proprietary information provided by an applicant for an operator license or an operator licensee to the commission under this chapter, the disclosure of which would place the applicant or licensee at a competitive disadvantage or would be detrimental to the applicant or licensee if it were made public, may be withheld from disclosure under section 10 of chapter 66 at the commission's discretion."

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr, Keenan and Eldridge moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_ the following sections:-

"SECTION 1. Section 6 of chapter 62 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the word 'amended', in line 769, the following words:- ' , or a private nonprofit trust established pursuant to chapter 203 organized for the purposes of land conservation, which is authorized to do business in the commonwealth, and which has tax-exempt status as a nonprofit charitable organization as described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended'.

SECTION 2. Said section 6 of said chapter 62, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by striking out, in line 835, the figure '\$2,000,000' and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- '\$3,000,000'.

SECTION 3. Said section 6 of said chapter 62 is hereby further amended by striking out the figure '\$3,000,000', inserted by section 2, and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- '\$4,000,000'.

SECTION 4. Said section 6 of said chapter 62 is hereby further amended by striking

309

312



out, in line 835, the figure '\$4,000,000', inserted by section 3, and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- '\$5,000,000'.

SECTION 5. Said section 6 of said chapter 62 is hereby further amended by striking out the figure '\$5,000,000', inserted by section 4, and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- '\$2,000,000'.

SECTION 6. Section 38AA of chapter 63, as so appearing, is hereby amended by inserting after the word 'amended', in line 29, the following words:- ', or a private nonprofit trust established pursuant to chapter 203 organized for the purposes of land conservation, which is authorized to do business in the commonwealth, and which has tax-exempt status as a nonprofit charitable organization as described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended'.

SECTION 7. Said section 38AA of said chapter 63, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by striking out, in line 88, the figure '\$2,000,000' and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- '\$3,000,000'.

SECTION 8. Said section 38AA of said chapter 63 is hereby further amended by striking out the figure '\$3,000,000', inserted by section 7, and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- '\$4,000,000'.

SECTION 9. Said section 38AA of said chapter 63 is hereby further amended by striking out the figure '\$4,000,000', inserted by section 8, and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- '\$5,000,000'.

SECTION 10. Said section 38AA of said chapter 63 is hereby further amended by striking out the figure '\$5,000,000', inserted by section 9, and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- '\$2,000,000'.

SECTION 11. Sections 1, 2, 6 and 7 shall take effect on January 1, 2026.

SECTION 12. Sections 3 and 8 shall take effect on January 1, 2027.

SECTION 13. Sections 4 and 9 shall take effect on January 1, 2028.

SECTION 14. Sections 5 and 10 shall take effect on December 31, 2034."

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr and Montigny, Ms. Kennedy, Messrs. Mark, Velis and Payano, Ms. Rausch and Messrs. Moore, O'Connor and Eldridge moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2511-0100, by adding the following words:- "; provided further, that \$125,000 shall be expended for the Homeless Animal Prevention and Care Fund" and by striking out the figure "\$11,677,101" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$11,802,101".

315

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Tarr moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_\_\_\_ the following section:-

319

"SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. Chapter 21N is hereby amended by inserting at the following new section:-

SECTION 12. (a) The executive office of energy and environmental affairs shall develop policies, programs, grants, loans and incentives to meet the statewide natural and working lands goal as identified in the plan, including, but not limited to, a community for a sustainable climate program. The executive office of energy and environmental affairs shall apply and disburse monies and revenues as provided in this section.

(b) The secretary shall establish a communities for a sustainable climate program. The purpose of the program shall be to provide technical and financial assistance, including incentives, grants and loans, to municipalities that qualify as sustainable communities under this section. These incentives, grants and loans shall be used to finance all or a portion of the costs of designing, constructing and implementing actions and strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase carbon sequestration on natural and working lands.

(c) To qualify as a community for a sustainable climate, a municipality or other local

governmental body shall comply with eligibility requirements developed by the secretary or his designee. Eligibility requirements are intended to incentivize communities to adopt policies and practices that protect, enhance, and restore carbon stocks on natural and working lands beyond business as usual. The secretary shall set eligibility requirements from among, but not limited to, the following: (1) adopt a municipal tree retention and replacement by-law or ordinance; (2) adopt natural resource protection zoning, as defined by the secretary; (3) collect a reasonable fee to be used exclusively for measures to remedy and offset the generation of greenhouse gases caused by activities that convert forest, wetlands, and agricultural lands for development at a size and scale determined by the secretary; (4) adopt a municipal transfer of development rights by-law or ordinance; and (5) adopt and implement a municipal procurement policy for municipal purchasing and substituting wood products for municipal operations and assets, where feasible, including but not limited to, concrete and steel in buildings. The secretary may waive specified requirements based on a written finding that, due to unusual circumstances, a municipality cannot reasonably meet the requirements and that the municipality has committed to alternative measures that advance the purposes of the communities for a sustainable climate program as effectively as adherence to the requirements. The Secretary may adopt alternative eligibility requirements that provide opportunities to achieve the goals of the program.

(d) The secretary may develop policies to provide for consistency and predictability and to help offset the impacts of municipal ordinances and by-laws upon the private sector under the communities for a sustainable climate program that may be adopted by participating communities, including, but not limited to, grants, loans, incentives and tax credits and expedited permitting for practices and strategies consistent with the goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase carbon sequestration on natural and working lands.

(e) Funding for the communities for a sustainable climate program in any single fiscal year shall be available, without the need for further appropriation, from sources including, but not limited to: (1) the global warming solutions trust fund established in section 35GGG of chapter 10 of the general laws; and (2) land management and restoration grant, loan and incentive programs administered by the executive office of energy and environmental affairs.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Tarr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2511-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further that not less than \$150,000 shall be expended for an initiative by the Open Door Food Pantry in Gloucester, serving Gloucester, Rockport, Essex, Manchester-by-the-Sea, Ipswich, Rowley, Topsfield, Boxford, Hamilton, Wenham and Lynn to make locally harvested fish accessible in the communities they serve”; and by striking the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$250,000”.

323

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 2300-0100, by adding the following words:- “; provided further; that the George L. Darey Inland Fisheries and Game Fund shall be reimbursed annually from the General Fund for all lost revenue attributed to the issuance of discounted and free hunting and fishing licenses.”

364

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Tarr moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_ the following sections:-

377

“SECTION\_. Said item 2000-0100 of said section 2 of said chapter 28, as so amended, is hereby further amended by inserting after the words, ‘That not less than \$150,000 shall

be expended to enter into an agreement with the metropolitan area planning district established in section 26 of chapter 40B of the General Laws to support the development of regional drought management and drinking supply resilience plans in Essex county' the following words:- 'and such funds shall be made available until June 30, 2025'.

"SECTION\_. Said item 2000-0100 of said section 2 of said chapter 140, as so amended, is hereby further amended by inserting after the words, 'provided further, that not less than \$200,000 shall be expended to enter into an agreement with the metropolitan area planning district established in section 26 of chapter 40B of the General Laws to support the development of regional drought management and drinking supply resilience plans in Essex county; and provided further, that funds may be used for administrative costs but such costs shall not exceed 10 per cent of the value of the agreement' the following words:- 'and such funds shall be made available until June 30, 2026'."

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr, Durant, O'Connor and Montigny moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_\_\_ the following section:-

387

"SECTION \_\_\_\_ The department of public utilities shall develop, implement, and maintain, a comprehensive, public- facing dashboard to display information relative to the cost and supply of energy for commercial and residential consumers in the commonwealth, provided that such information shall include but not be limited to: i) investor owned transmission and distribution companies of electricity and natural gas, organized by region, ii) current rates for natural gas and electricity for each such company, iii) a clear and easily digestible explanation of the components of gas and electricity bills in the commonwealth, including regional variations, iv) the sources of gas and electricity being delivered by such companies, v) the date of the most recently approved rates for gas and electricity for each company, and vi) a summary of the proceedings by which those rates were approved, vii) the duration of the currently approved rates and any anticipated new rate case filings, viii) any available incentives or discounts to reduce the consumer cost of electricity and natural gas, ix) average daily, monthly, and yearly consumption of gas and electricity, and any other relevant information."

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Fattman moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_\_\_ the following section:-

388

"SECTION X. Section 35BBB of chapter 10 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out the figure '\$1' and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- '\$5'."

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr, Durant, O'Connor and Montigny moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4003-0122, by striking the figure "\$1,305,256" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$1,505,256".

394

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr, Durant, O'Connor and Montigny moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4510-0100, by adding the following words:- "; provided further that the Department of Public Health shall make a request for approval from the United States Department of Agriculture for the expenditure of benefits on diapers for children and infants under the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)".

395

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr, Durant and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section\_ the following section:-

398

"SECTION\_. Section 12 of Chapter 176J as appearing is hereby amended by striking in line 32 the figure '6' and inserting in place thereof the following figure:-'10'; and by

striking in line 35 the figure ‘6’ and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- ‘10’.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr and Durant moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 9110-1633, by adding after the word “affairs”, the following words:- “; provided further, that the department, in consultation with the administrators of contracted aging services access points, shall develop and execute a plan to streamline the intake assessment process with regard to the questions involved in developing the Comprehensive Data Sets known as CDS-3-CM and CDS-3-RN, so as to reduce, consolidate, or otherwise improve the efficiency and ease of administering said process with regard to such questions,”.

402

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr and Durant, Ms. Edwards and Messrs. O'Connor, Eldridge and Montigny moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following section:-

406

“SECTION \_\_. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the Secretary of Health and Human Services in conjunction with the Secretary of Elder Affairs shall file an application to seek a waiver with the Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS) to amend the Commonwealth of Massachusetts’ 1915(c) elderly waiver, and that any program of home and community based services in which family members are permitted to serve as paid caregivers, funded pursuant to Section 9 of Chapter 118E shall include spouses within the definition of a family member.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr, Mark, Collins, Gómez, Durant, Eldridge and Keenan, Ms. Edwards, Messrs. Payano and Fernandes, Ms. Rausch, Messrs. Montigny and Moore, Ms. Jehlen and Messrs. Fattman and Lewis moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_ the following section:-

469

“SECTION X. Chapter 128 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 2E the following section:-

Section 2F. (a) The department of transitional assistance, in partnership with the department of agricultural resources and the department of public health, shall operate a healthy incentives program. The program shall provide that Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits, established pursuant to the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, 7 U.S.C. section 2011 hereinafter referred to as SNAP, redeemed for fruit and vegetable purchases, either fresh, canned, dried or frozen, by a SNAP recipient at a participating vendor, shall entitle the recipient to receive a matching benefit reimbursed on the recipient’s EBT card, within limits to be established by the department.

(b) There shall be established and set up on the books of the commonwealth a separate fund, to be administered by the commissioner of the department of transitional assistance, which shall be known as the Massachusetts Healthy Incentives Fund. The Fund shall consist of all revenues from public and private sources as appropriations, gifts, grants, donations, reimbursements from the federal government and grants-in-aid or other receipts to further the purposes of the Fund in accordance with this section.

(c) The Department of Transitional Assistance and its partners may apply for any available federal programs such as Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program administered by the United States Department of Agriculture to provide matching benefits to be deposited in the Fund.

SECTION 2. The Department of Transitional Assistance shall promulgate rules and regulations to implement the program set forth in section X.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr and Fattman moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_ the following section:-

472

“SECTION\_. Chapter 111, as appearing in the Massachusetts General Laws 2020 Edition, is hereby amended by inserting, after section 72BB the following new section:-

Section 72CC. (a) As used in this section the following words shall have the following meaning:- A certified medication aide means a staff member, who meets the eligibility requirements, has successfully completed the required training and competency testing developed by the Department of Public Health, and is considered competent to administer medications to residents in long-term care facilities.

(b) The Department shall create a program for the administration of medications in long-term care facilities by certified medication aides in consultation with all necessary and relevant appropriate agencies, and licensing boards, including, but not limited to, the board of registration in Nursing.

(c) The Department shall develop and approve training curricula, competency evaluation procedures, standards for qualifications of applicants for certification and monitoring and oversight requirements for participating long-term care facilities.

(d) The Department shall establish regulations that include: (1) provisions for continuing education requirements for certified medication aides; (2) requirements for re-certification of certified medication aides on a biennial basis; and (3) fees for the issuance of certification to certified medication aides.

(e) The Department shall allow for the creation of apprenticeship programs for currently employed resident care assistants (RCAs) and certified nurse aides (CNAs) to become certified medication aides.

(f) The Department may promulgate rules and regulations to carry out the provisions of this section.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr and Finegold moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_ the following sections:-

“SECTION\_. Item 2511-0107 in section 2 of chapter 140 of the acts of 2024 is hereby amended by inserting after the words, ‘Wenham and’ the following words: -‘for staffing and logistics expenses related to opening and operating the Seacoast Regional Food Hub, located in Salisbury, serving the Lower Merrimack Valley Food Coalition’.”

“SECTION\_. Item 2511-0107 in section 2 of chapter 140 of the acts of 2024 is hereby amended by inserting after the words, ‘northeastern Essex county’ the following words: - ‘and such funds shall be made available until June 30, 2026’.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Tarr moved that the proposed new text be amended by striking section 70.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr, Fattman and Durant, Mrs. Dooner and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7061-0008, by striking the figure “\$7,096,864,553” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$7,109,570,153”; and

In section 3 by striking the figure “\$150” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$175”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr, Durant, O'Connor, Eldridge and Keenan moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7061-0028, by striking out the figure “\$5,962,647” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$7,000,000”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Tarr, Mrs. Dooner and Messrs. Fattman, Durant, Eldridge and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following section:-

“SECTION\_. (a) There shall be a special commission to study and make recommendations concerning the long-term fiscal health of non-rural school districts that are facing or may face declining student enrollment and are receiving the minimum chapter 70 per pupil aid. The commission shall consist of: 1 member who shall be appointed by the

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president of the senate, who shall serve as co-chair; 1 member who shall be appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives, who shall serve as co-chair; 1 member who shall be appointed by the minority leader of the senate; 1 member who shall be appointed by the minority leader of the house of representatives; the deputy commissioner of the division of local services within the department of revenue or a designee; the secretary of education or a designee; the commissioner of elementary and secondary education or a designee; and 9 members appointed by the governor, 1 of whom shall be a representative of the Massachusetts Association of Regional Schools, Inc., 1 of whom shall be a representative of the Massachusetts Association of School Committees, Inc., 1 of whom shall be a representative of the Massachusetts Teachers Association, 1 of whom shall be a representative of the American Federation of Teachers, Massachusetts; 1 of whom shall be a representative of the Massachusetts Association of School Business Officials, Inc., 1 of whom shall be a representative of the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents, Inc., 1 of whom shall be representatives of the Massachusetts Municipal Association, 1 of whom shall be a municipal official with responsibility for municipal budgeting, and 1 of whom shall be a researcher from a public institution of higher learning with expertise in demographics and economics. Members shall not receive compensation for their services but may receive reimbursement for reasonable expenses incurred in carrying out their responsibilities as members of the commission. The commissioner of elementary and secondary education shall furnish reasonable staff and other support for the work of the commission.

(b) In making its recommendations, the commission shall consider: (i) long-term economic, demographic and student enrollment trends and projections of school districts that are experiencing population decline and have received minimum chapter 70 ‘per pupil’ aid for at least the last 3 years; (ii) long-term fiscal trends in school districts experiencing declining student enrollment; (iii) an analysis of the fiscal health of regional school districts and the impact of regionalization on each contributing municipality, especially in low-income and middle-income areas, including funding impacts on each contributing municipality; (iv) the impact on school districts of meeting increased costs while receiving only minimum chapter 70 ‘per pupil’ aid; (v) the sustainability of providing high quality education in districts receiving minimum ‘per pupil’ aid; (vi) the impact on municipal finances and services on communities receiving minimum per pupil chapter 70 aid; and (vii) best policies and practices in other states. The commission shall make recommendations for: (i) effectively addressing any adverse impacts identified in subsection (b), including but not limited to measures such as: supplemental state educational aid, modifications to the aid mechanisms contained in chapter 70, including formula adjustments, and other forms of assistance or cost saving measures; (ii) establishing and including a low and declining student enrollment factor within the foundation budget; (iii) expanding the use of technology to deliver instruction; (iv) enabling operating efficiencies; (v) exploring the use of shared services; (vi) optimizing schools and school districts; (vii) encouraging improvement of fiscal health and educational outcomes; and (viii) characterizing the structural conflict in the current chapter 70 funding formula between declining enrollment and increasing costs for school districts, and identifying means to resolve this conflict. The commission shall include with its recommendations any cost estimates and feasibility associated with the commission’s recommendations.

(c) The commission shall hold not less than 5 public meetings and may hold additional hearings and other forums that it considers necessary. The commission shall file its report and recommendations with the clerks of the senate and the house of representatives, the chairs of the joint committee on education and the rural policy advisory commission not later than March 1, 2026.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr, Fattman and Durant and Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_ the following section:-

607

“SECTION\_. (a) There shall be a task force on vocational-technical education program admissions to examine and make recommendations on: (i) admissions policies pursuant to chapter 74 of the General Laws; (ii) the collection, dissemination and analysis of district-level and statewide data on vocational-technical education program admissions and waitlists for programs pursuant to said chapter 74; and (iii) the standard for review and enforcement of the policies pursuant to clause (i) and data collected, disseminated and analyzed pursuant to clause (ii).

(b) The task force shall consist of the following 15 members: the chairs of the joint committee on education, who shall serve as co-chairs; the chairs of the joint committee on labor and workforce development; a member of the house of representatives appointed by the house minority leader; a member of the senate appointed by the senate minority leader; 1 member of the gateway cities legislative caucus; the commissioner of elementary and secondary education or a designee; 1 member of the Massachusetts Association of Vocational Administrators; 1 member of the Alliance for Vocational Technical Education; 1 member of the Massachusetts Career & Technical Educators Organization; 1 member of the Massachusetts Association of School Committees; 1 member of the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents; 1 member of the Massachusetts Association of Regional Schools; and 1 member of the Massachusetts Municipal Association.

(c) The first meeting of the task force shall take place not later than September 15, 2025.

The task force shall conduct at least 1 public hearing to receive testimony from members of the public. Not later than September 15, 2026, the task force shall file a report containing its findings and recommendations, including legislative recommendations, if any, with the clerks of the house of representatives and the senate and the house and senate committees on ways and means.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr, Durant and Eldridge, Mrs. Dooner and Messrs. O'Connor and Keenan moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following section:-

610

“SECTION\_. There shall be established a chapter 70 local contribution formula working group to study and make recommendations for updating the local contribution formula as determined pursuant to chapter 70 of the Massachusetts General Laws. The working group shall consist of 7 members: secretary of education or a designee who shall serve as chair, The commissioner of the elementary and secondary education or a designee, the commissioner of revenue or a designee, 1 designee from the Massachusetts Teachers Association, 1 designee from the Massachusetts Budget and Policy Center, 1 designee from the Massachusetts Taxpayers Foundation, and 1 designee from Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents. The working group shall issue a report that includes, but is not limited to, (i) an analysis of the impact of the current local contribution formula on municipal budgets, (ii) an assessment on municipalities’ ability to pay the required local contribution and maintain other municipal services, (iii) the impact of proposition 2½ on a municipality’s ability to pay the required local contribution; and (iv) an analysis of local contribution to education funding in other states. The working group shall include recommendations to update the local contribution formula to appropriately assess what a municipality shall contribute to education funding going forward. The analysis and recommendations shall be submitted to the clerks of the house of representatives and senate, the joint committee on education, and the house and senate committees on ways and means no later than December 31, 2026.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr and Durant, Mrs. Dooner and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new

611

text be amended by inserting after section \_ the following sections:-

“SECTION X. Section 2 of chapter 70 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking the definition of 'Foundation allotments' and inserting in place thereof the following new definition:-

‘Foundation allotments’, the sum of the foundation category costs for each district; provided, however, that the sum in each foundation category shall be the product of enrollment in each foundation enrollment category that is eligible for the respective foundation category and the per-pupil rate assigned to each foundation category; provided further, that in each year the per-pupil rate for each foundation category, except employee benefits and fixed charges, shall not be less than the foundation per-pupil rate in section 3 of this chapter adjusted by the foundation inflation index; and provided further, that in each year the rate for employee benefits and fixed charges shall not be less than the prior year's rate adjusted by the foundation employee benefits inflation rate.

SECTION XX. Said section 2 of chapter 70 is hereby further amended by striking the definition of ‘Foundation inflation index’ and inserting in place thereof the following new definition:-

‘Foundation inflation index’, is the ratio of the value of the implicit price deflator for state and local government consumption expenditures and gross investment in the first quarter of the prior fiscal year to the value of that same deflator in the first quarter of fiscal year two thousand and nineteen; provided that the increase in the index over the prior fiscal year shall not exceed four-and-one-half percent.

SECTION XXX. Section X and section XX of this act shall take effect on September 1, 2025, and shall be used in calculating the foundation budget for school districts beginning in fiscal year two thousand twenty-six.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr and Durant, Mrs. Dooner and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following section:-

“SECTION \_. (a) There shall be a special legislative commission to be known as the School Finance Review Commission established under section 2A of Chapter 4 of the General Laws to study and make recommendations concerning strategies for creating a more equitable distribution of Chapter 70 school aid to municipal and regional school districts as well as other entities that receive chapter 70 school aid.

(b) The commission shall consist of: (i) the house chair of the joint committee on education or a designee, who shall serve as co-chair of the commission; (ii) the senate chair of the joint committee on education or a designee, who shall serve as co-chair of the commission; (iii) the chair of the house committee on ways and means or a designee; (iv) the chair of the senate committee on ways and means or a designee; (v) the secretary of education or a designee; (vi) the commissioner of elementary and secondary education or a designee; (vii) 1 member to be appointed by the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents, Inc.; (viii) 1 member to be appointed by the Massachusetts Association of School Committees, Inc.; (ix) 1 member to be appointed by the Massachusetts Association of School Business Officials, Inc.; (x) 1 member to be appointed by the Massachusetts Business Alliance for Education, Inc.; (xi) 1 member to be appointed by the Massachusetts Budget and Policy Center, Inc.; (xii) 1 member to be appointed by the Massachusetts Taxpayers Foundation, Inc.; (xiii) 1 member to be appointed by the Boston Municipal Research Bureau, Inc.; (xiv) 1 member to be appointed by the Massachusetts Teachers Association; (xv) 1 member to be appointed by the American Federation of Teachers; and (xvi) 1 member to be appointed by the Massachusetts Municipal Association.

(c) The commission shall study the long-term effects of strategies for distributing chapter 70 school aid including, but not limited to: (i) annual per-pupil allocations; (ii) hold harmless provisions to preserve the level of funds in periods of declining enrollment; and

612

(iii) the establishment of reserve funds for extraordinary circumstances; (iv) the long-term fiscal trends in school districts experiencing declining student enrollment; (v) an analysis of the fiscal health of regional school districts and the impact of regionalization on each contributing municipality, especially in low-income and middle-income areas, including funding impacts on each contributing municipality; (vi) the impact on school districts of meeting increased costs while receiving only minimum chapter 70 ‘per pupil’ aid; (vii) the sustainability of providing high quality education in districts receiving minimum ‘per pupil’ aid; (viii) the impact on municipal finances and services on communities receiving minimum per pupil chapter 70 aid;

(d) The commission shall make recommendations regarding strategies for distributing chapter 70 school aid including, but not limited to: (i) considering alternatives for generating additional revenue to be delegated to chapter 70 school aid for the next 5 fiscal years (ii) reviewing the calculation of the foundation budget to provide adequate and stable allocation of public funds for school districts; (iii) reviewing the impact of economic conditions on the elements of the foundation budget; (iv) considering alternative means of distributing available revenue by studying previously used strategies, proposed new strategies and such other proposals as may be offered to adapt current practices; and (v) researching the effectiveness and viability of alternative means of addressing economic factors such as: inflation, recession, loss of state revenues, emergencies or changes to state or federal law that affects eligibility for public benefits and the effect that loss of such classification may affect the ability of school districts to provide a mandated standard of education; (vi) establishing and including a low and declining student enrollment factor within the foundation budget; (vii) characterizing the structural conflict in the current chapter 70 funding formula between declining enrollment and increasing costs for school districts, and identifying means to resolve this conflict.

(e) The commission shall file a report and recommendations to (i) the clerks of the House of Representatives and the Senate; (ii) the chairs of the House and Senate committee on ways and means; and (iii) the chairs of the joint committee on the education not later than December 31, 2026.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr, Durant, Fernandes and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following sections:-

“SECTION \_\_\_\_ Chapter 71 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 37R the following section:- Section 37S. A public school, including a charter school, that serves students in any of grades 6 to 12, inclusive, and that issues new or replacement student identification cards to enrolled students shall include on such cards the telephone and text message number for the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline.

SECTION \_\_\_\_ Chapter 73 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the following section:- Section 21. A public or private institution of higher education that issues new or replacement student identification cards to enrolled students shall include on such student identification cards the telephone and text message number for the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline.

SECTION \_\_\_\_ As of the effective date of this act, if a public school subject to section 37S of chapter 71 of the General Laws or a public or private institution of higher education subject section 21 of chapter 73 of the General Laws has a supply of unissued student identification cards that do not comply with the requirements of said section 37S of said chapter 71 or said section 21 of said chapter 73, the school may issue such student identification cards to students until such remaining supply is depleted.

SECTION \_\_\_\_ Section 37S of chapter 71 of the General Laws and section 21 of chapter 73 of the General Laws shall apply to student identification cards issued on or after July 1, 2025.”

671

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr, Fattman and Durant and Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following sections:-

686

“SECTION XX. Section 21 of Chapter 140 of the Acts of 2024 is hereby amended by inserting after the word ‘credits’ the following words:- ‘provided, that no person shall be eligible for said community college program who is not legally present in the United States’.

SECTION XX. Section 22 of Chapter 140 of the Acts of 2024 by inserting after the word, ‘applicable’ the following words:-‘provided, that no person shall be eligible for in-state tuition who is not legally present in the United States’.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr, Fattman and Durant and Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_\_\_ the following sections:-

687

“SECTION XX. Section 21 of Chapter 140 of the Acts of 2024 is hereby amended by inserting after the word, ‘credits’ the following words:- ‘, provided further, said student shall report to the college in a timely manner the disposition of such application, and if said application does not result in the student achieving citizenship or other lawful status, the community college which the student attended may issue an invoice for the foregone cost of education provided, and collect payment for such cost, provided further, that such payment may be made in installments over a period of not more than 7 years’.

SECTION XX. Section 22 of Chapter 140 of the Acts of 2024, by inserting after the word, ‘applicable’ the following words:- ‘, provided further, said student shall report to the college in a timely manner the disposition of such application, and if said application does not result in the student achieving citizenship or other lawful status, the community college which the student attended may issue an invoice for the foregone cost of education provided, and collect payment for such cost, provided further, that such payment may be made in installments over a period of not more than 7 years.’.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr and Collins, Mrs. Dooner and Messrs. Eldridge, Cyr and Montigny moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7027-0019, by inserting after “programs” the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$150,000 shall be expended to the Massachusetts Marine Trades Association to increase workforce development training opportunities and technical education in secondary and post-secondary schools for careers in the marine trades”; and by striking out the figure “\$6,531,266” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$6,681,266”.

715

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr, Durant and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following sections:-

716

“SECTION \_\_\_\_ . Section 4 of chapter 70 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking section 4 in its entirety, and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

Section 4. There shall be a foundation budget review commission to review, every 5 years, the way foundation budgets are calculated and to make recommendations for potential changes in those calculations as the commission deems appropriate. In conducting such review, the commission shall seek to determine the educational programs and services necessary to achieve the commonwealth's educational goals.

The scope of the review shall include all aspects of the school funding formula, including, but not limited to, (i) the chapter 70 inflation adjustment cap; (ii) impacts of the cost of living on school district resources; (iii) the wage adjustment factor; (iv) special education costs; (v) how to appropriately account for and fund the cost of transporting various types of students; (vi) how to best address the impact of low and declining enrollment on districts; (vii) how to best address the unique challenges faced by rural



districts; (viii) the impact of the fixed 59 percent local share of the statewide foundation budget on the calculation of combined effort yield for each municipality and whether the local share should be changed; (ix) the extent to which the wealth and income measures in the formula accurately determine a municipality's ability to contribute to its foundation budget costs and whether these measures should be changed; (x) the impact of the growing number of municipalities that are subject to the 82.5 percent maximum local contribution and whether this cap should be removed or changed; and (xi) any other aspect of the school funding formula that the commission deems necessary to fulfill its mandate.

The commission shall seek to determine and recommend measures to promote the adoption of ways in which resources can be most effectively utilized and consider various models of efficient and effective resource allocation. In carrying out the review, the commissioner of elementary and secondary education shall provide to the commission any data and information the commissioner considers relevant to the commission's charge.

The commission shall include the house and senate chairs of the joint committee on education, who shall serve as co-chairs, the secretary of education, the commissioner of elementary and secondary education, the commissioner of early education and care, the speaker of the house of representatives or a designee, the president of the senate or a designee, the minority leader of the house of representatives or a designee, the minority leader of the senate or a designee, the governor or a designee, the chair of the house committee on ways and means or a designee, the chair of the senate committee on ways and means or a designee and 1 member to be appointed by each of the following organizations: the Massachusetts Municipal Association, Inc., the Massachusetts Business Alliance for Education, Inc., the Massachusetts Association of School Committees, Inc., the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents, Inc., the Massachusetts Teachers Association, the American Federation of Teachers Massachusetts, the Massachusetts Association of Vocational Administrators, Inc., the Massachusetts Association of Regional Schools, Inc. and the Massachusetts Association of School Business Officials. Members shall not receive compensation for their services but may receive reimbursement for the reasonable expenses incurred in carrying out their responsibilities as members of the commission. The commissioner of elementary and secondary education shall furnish reasonable staff and other support for the work of the commission. Prior to issuing its recommendations, the commission shall conduct not fewer than 4 public hearings across regions of the commonwealth. The commission shall be considered a special commission established by section 2A of chapter 4 and shall be subject to the provisions of said section 2A of chapter 4. It shall not constitute a violation of chapter 268A for state employee or a person employed by a school district to serve on the commission or to participate in commission deliberations that may have a financial impact on the district employing that person, on the commonwealth, or on the rate at which that person may be compensated. The commission may establish procedures to ensure that no such person participates in commission deliberations that may directly affect the school districts employing those persons or that may directly affect the rate at which those persons are compensated.

SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. The first report by the commission established pursuant to section 4 of chapter 70 shall be filed on or before November 1, 2026."

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in Section 2F, in item 1596-2410, by inserting after the word, "finance," the following words:- "and the clerks of the house and senate".

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr and Durant, Mrs. Dooner and Messrs. O'Connor and Montigny moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following sections:-

"SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. For purposes of this section, the following shall be defined as

720

722

‘Eligible Educator’ -Kindergarten through grade 12 teacher, instructor, counselor, or aide who worked in a school for at least 900 hours during a school year.

‘Qualified Expenses’ -Necessary expenses paid for books, supplies, equipment (including but not limited to computer and related equipment, software, services, and online educational resources).

Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary an eligible educator licensed and working in the commonwealth in a elementary or secondary school shall be allowed to deduct up to \$500 of qualified expenses if filing individually or \$1,000 if filling jointly with a spouse who is an eligible educator, provided that neither eligible educator can deduct more than \$500 of their qualified expenses.

SECTION \_\_\_\_ . SECTION \_\_\_\_ shall expire on January 1, 2030.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr, Fattman and Durant, Mrs. Dooner and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following sections:-

757

“SECTION \_\_\_\_ . Section 1 of Chapter 64H of the general laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting, after the definition of ‘Retail establishment’, the following new definition:-

‘Rolling stock’, trucks, tractors, and trailers, used by common carriers to transport goods in interstate commerce.

SECTION \_\_\_\_ . Section 6 of Chapter 64H of the general laws, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by inserting, after subsection (xx), the following new subsection:-

(yy) sales of rolling stock

SECTION \_\_\_\_ . Section 1 of Chapter 64I of the general laws, as so appearing, is amended by inserting in line 6, after the words ‘retail sale’, the following new words:- ‘rolling stock’.

SECTION \_\_\_\_ . Section 7 of chapter 64I of the general laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by inserting, after subsection (e), the following new subsection:-

(f) storage, use or other consumption of rolling stock.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr, Fattman and Durant, Mrs. Dooner and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section \_\_\_\_ the following section:-

758

“SECTION \_\_\_\_ . (a) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, for the days of August 4-10, 2026, inclusive, the tax imposed upon meals pursuant to chapter 64H of the General Laws, as most recently amended by section 157 of chapter 27 of the Acts of 2009, shall be suspended.

(b) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, for the days of August 4-10, 2026, inclusive, a restaurant in the commonwealth shall not add to the sales price or collect from a customer an excise upon sales of meals. The commissioner of revenue shall not require any restaurant to collect and pay excise upon sales of meals purchased on August 4-10, 2026, inclusive, of each calendar year. An excise erroneously or improperly collected during the days of August 4-10, 2026, inclusive, shall be remitted to the Department of Revenue. Any city or town which imposes a local option meals tax may still collect that tax during these dates.

(c) Reporting requirements imposed upon restaurants by law or regulation, including, but not limited to, the requirements for filing returns required by chapter 62C of the General Laws, shall remain in effect for sales on the days of August 4-10, 2026, inclusive.

(d) On or before December 31, 2026 the commissioner of revenue shall certify to the comptroller the amount of sales tax forgone, as well as new revenue raised from person and corporate income taxes and other sources, pursuant to this Act. The commissioner shall file a report with the joint committee on revenue and the house and senate committees on ways and means detailing by fund the amounts under general and special laws governing the distribution of revenues under Chapter 64H of the General Laws which would have been

deposited in each fund, without this act.

(e) The commissioner of revenue shall issue instructions or forms, or promulgate rules or regulations, necessary for the implementation of this act.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr, Fattman and Durant and Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following sections:-

759

“SECTION XX. Section 2 of chapter 64H of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking the words ‘6.25 per cent’ and inserting in place thereof the words ‘5.8 per cent’.

SECTION XX. Section 2 of said chapter 64H, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking the words ‘6.25 per cent’ and inserting in place thereof the words ‘5.4 per cent’.

SECTION XX. Section 2 of said chapter 64H, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking the words ‘6.25 per cent’ and inserting in place thereof the words ‘5 per cent’.

SECTION XX. Section 2 of Chapter 64I of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking the words ‘6.25 per cent’ and inserting in place thereof the words ‘5.8 per cent’.

SECTION XX. Section 2 of said chapter 64I, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking the words ‘6.25 per cent’ and inserting in place thereof the words ‘5.4 per cent’.

SECTION XX. Section 2 of said chapter 64I, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking the words ‘6.25 per cent’ and inserting in place thereof the words ‘5 per cent’.

SECTION XX. Sections 1 and 4 shall take effect on August 1, 2025.

SECTION XX. Sections 2 and 5 shall take effect on August 1, 2026.

SECTION XX. Sections 3 and 6 shall take effect on August 1, 2027.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr, Fattman and Durant, Mrs. Dooner and Mr. Moore moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following section:-

760

“SECTION\_. Chapter 149 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after Section 29C, the following section:-

Section 29C1/2. (a) As used in this section, the following terms shall have the following meanings:-

‘Service provider’, a person providing services under a snow removal and ice control services contract.

‘Service receiver’, a person receiving services under a snow removal and ice control services contract.

‘Snow removal and ice control services contract’, a contract or agreement for the performance of any of the following: (1) plowing, shoveling, or other removal of snow or other mixed precipitation from a surface; (2) de-icing services; or (3) a service incidental to an activity described in item (1) or (2), including operating or otherwise moving snow removal or de-icing equipment or materials.

(b) A provision, clause, covenant, or agreement that is part of or in connection with a snow removal and ice control services contract is against public policy and void if it does any of the following: (1) requires, or has the effect of requiring, a service provider to indemnify a service receiver for damages resulting from the acts or omissions of the service receiver or the service receiver's agents or employees; (2) requires, or has the effect of requiring, a service receiver to indemnify a service provider for damages resulting from the acts or omissions of the service provider or the service provider's agents or employees; (3) requires, or has the effect of requiring, a service provider to hold a service receiver harmless from any tort liability for damages resulting from the acts or omissions of the service receiver or the service receiver's agents or employees; (4) Requires, or has the effect of requiring, a service receiver to hold a service provider harmless from any tort liability for damages resulting from the acts or omissions of the service provider or the service provider's agents or employees.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Durant and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following sections:-

764

“SECTION XX. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the Worcester regional retirement board shall pay to Joanne Songy, surviving spouse of detective John D. Songy, a police officer in the town of Rutland who died from complications related to COVID-19, benefits pursuant to section 100 of chapter 32 of the General Laws; provided, however, that all amounts paid hereunder shall be non-taxable to the extent allowable under state law.

SECTION XX. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the state board of retirement shall pay to Joanne Songy, surviving spouse of detective John D. Songy, a police officer in the town of Rutland who died from complications related to COVID-19, benefits pursuant to section 100A of chapter 32 of the General Laws; provided, however, that all amounts paid hereunder shall be non-taxable to the extent allowable under state law.

SECTION XX. This act shall take effect as of August 1, 2024.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Durant, Fattman, Moore, Tarr and Oliveira, Mrs. Dooner, Messrs. Gómez, O'Connor and Kennedy and Ms. Edwards moved that the proposed new text be amended in section 2, by inserting after item 7004-9038 the following item:-

765

“XXXX-XXXX There shall be a Crumbling Concrete Assistance Fund, which shall be administered by the secretary of housing and livable communities. The fund shall be expended, without further appropriation to: (i) provide financial assistance to owners of residential real property for the repair or replacement of concrete foundations of such residential real property that have deteriorated due to the presence of pyrite or pyrrhotite; (ii) minimize negative fiscal impacts on municipalities in which such property is located; and (iii) reimburse the owner of a residential real property that presents satisfactory evidence, as determined by the secretary, that said owner has paid for and replaced their concrete foundation that deteriorated due to the presence of pyrite or pyrrhotite prior to the establishment of the fund; provided, however, that the reimbursement shall not exceed the funding the owner would have received had they applied for financial assistance through the fund. The secretary shall seek to maximize available federal reimbursements for money spent from the fund; provide further, 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 and private sources, including, but not limited to, gifts, grants, donations and settlements received by the commonwealth that are specifically designated to be credited to the fund; (iii) interest earned on the assets of the fund. Any balance in the fund at the close of a fiscal year shall be available for expenditure in subsequent fiscal years and shall not be transferred to any other fund or revert to the General Fund; provided further, the secretary of housing and livable communities may apply for, receive and deposit any federal funds, including, but not limited to, funds made available by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development Section 108 Loan Guarantee program, into the fund; provided further, that amounts issued from the fund to impacted homeowners for the repair or replacement of concrete foundations that have deteriorated due to the presence of pyrrhotite shall be exempt from taxation under chapter 62; provided further that annually, not later than June 1, the secretary of housing and livable communities shall report on the activities of the fund from the previous calendar year to the clerks of the senate and house of representatives, the senate and house committees on ways and means, the joint committee on environment and natural resources and the joint committee on housing; and provided further, the secretary of housing and livable communities shall

promulgate regulations or issue other guidance to set rules for the expenditure of the funds under this section.....\$20,000,000”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr, Durant and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following section:-

769

“SECTION \_\_\_\_ Paragraph (1) of subsection (a) of section 4 of said chapter 62, as so appearing, is hereby amended by inserting, in line 5, after the word ‘cent’ the following words:- ‘provided, however, that any gain from the sale or exchange of capital assets held for 1 year or less shall be taxed at the rate of 5 per cent’.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr and Durant, Mrs. Dooner and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following section:-

785

“SECTION \_\_\_\_ A. Section 4(d) of chapter 62 of the General Laws, as appearing in section 28 of chapter 50 of the Acts of 2023, is hereby amended by striking out the third and fourth sentences and inserting in place thereof the following:-

For purposes of determining the applicability of the additional 4 per cent tax under this subsection, a married couple may elect to file jointly or separately on their Massachusetts return, regardless of their federal filing status. The \$1,000,000 threshold shall apply to each individual filing a separate return.

SECTION \_\_\_\_ B. Section \_\_\_\_ A shall take effect for taxable years beginning on January 1, 2025.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr and Durant and Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following section:-

787

“SECTION \_\_\_\_ Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the department of revenue shall decrease the percent that a payment processor may charge taxpayers using a credit card to pay their taxes from 2.35% to 1.5%.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr and Durant moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following section:-

788

“SECTION \_\_\_\_ Chapter 30B of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after section 23 the following new section:-

Section 24. Any state agency procuring information technology goods or services shall give preference to vendors which carry cybersecurity insurance. This section shall not be construed to preclude vendors without cybersecurity insurance from submitting solicitations to the state or being awarded bids by the state for information technology goods or services.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following section:-

790

“SECTION \_\_\_\_ Chapter 62 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2024 Official Edition, is hereby amended in section 6 by adding the following subsection:-

(x) The amount allowable as a deduction under subsection (a) to any individual for any taxable year for an individual retirement account shall not exceed the lesser of—

(1) an amount equal to the compensation includible in the individual's gross income for such taxable year.

(2) Special rule for employer contributions under simplified employee pensions. This section shall not apply with respect to an employer contribution to a simplified employee pension.

(3) Plans under USC section 501(c)(18). Notwithstanding paragraph (1), the amount allowable as a deduction under subsection (a) with respect to any contributions on behalf of an employee to a plan described in section 501(c)(18) shall not exceed the lesser of—



(A) \$7,000, or

(B) an amount equal to 25 percent of the compensation (as defined in section 415(c)(3)) includible in the individual's gross income for such taxable year.

(4) Special rule for simple retirement accounts. This section shall not apply with respect to any amount contributed to a simple retirement account established under section 408(p).

(5) Deduction amount. For purposes of paragraph (1)(A)-

(A) In general. The deductible amount is \$5,000.

(B) Catch-up contributions for individuals 50 or older.

(i) In general. In the case of an individual who has attained the age of 50 before the close of the taxable year, the deductible amount for such taxable year shall be increased by the applicable amount.

(ii) Applicable amount. For purposes of clause (i), the applicable amount is \$1,000."

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr, Fattman and Durant and Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following section:-

791

"SECTION \_\_\_. There shall be a special commission to: (i) evaluate the Commonwealth's current unemployment policies and assess their effect on the health and growth of Massachusetts small businesses, and (ii) make recommendations to improve the existing unemployment insurance procedures in regard to fostering economic growth and incentivizing employers to hire additional workers. The commission shall file its findings and recommendations, together with drafts of legislation necessary to carry those recommendations into effect, with the clerks of the senate and the house of representatives not later than December 31, 2027.

The commission shall consist of 1 member who shall be appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives; 1 member who shall be appointed by the minority leader of the house of representatives; 1 member who shall be appointed by the senate president; 1 member who shall be appointed by the minority leader of the senate; the secretary of the executive office of labor and workforce development or a designee; the secretary of the executive office of economic development or a designee; the chair of the joint committee on community development and small business; the chair of the joint committee on labor and workforce development; the chair of the joint committee on economic development and emerging technologies; and 1 member to be appointed by each of the following organizations: Associated Industries of Massachusetts, the Massachusetts Restaurant Association, the Massachusetts chapter of the National Federation of Independent Businesses, and the Massachusetts State Labor Council."

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr and Durant moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following section:-

792

"SECTION \_\_\_. (a) The terms used in this section shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

'Amnesty period', a period of time commencing for 2 consecutive months and not earlier than the date a local legislative body establishes a municipal tax amnesty program according to this act and expiring not later than June 30, 2027, as the local legislative body might determine, during which the municipal tax amnesty program established by the local legislative body shall be in effect in that city or town.

'Collector', a person receiving a tax list and a warrant to collect the same.

'Covered amount', the aggregate of all penalties, fees, charges and accrued interest assessed by the collector or treasurer for the failure of a certain taxpayer to timely pay a subject liability; provided, however, that the covered amount shall not include the subject liability itself or any fees and charges authorized or incurred for the collection of a past due subject liability for which notice has been issued; and provided further, that nothing in this

section shall authorize the waiver of penalties, fees, charges and accrued interest resulting from the violation of any law, municipal by-law or ordinance.

‘Municipal tax amnesty program’, a temporary policy by a city or town to forever waive its right to collect all or any uniform proportion of the covered amount, as determined by the local legislative body, then due from any person who, prior to the expiration of the amnesty period, voluntarily pays the collector or treasurer the full amount of the subject liability that serves as the basis for the covered amount; provided, however, that a municipal tax amnesty program shall not include a policy that enables or requires a city or town to waive its right to collect the covered amount from a person who, at the time of commencement of the amnesty period is or was the subject of a criminal investigation or prosecution for failure to pay the city or town any subject liability or covered amount.

‘Subject liability’, the principal amount of a particular tax or excise liability payable by a taxpayer under chapter 59, 60, 60A or 60B of the General Laws, as determined by the local legislative body.

‘Treasurer’, as described in chapter 41 of the General Laws.

(b) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the local legislative body in any city or town may vote to establish a municipal tax amnesty program according to the provisions of this section and shall, at the same time as such vote, determine the amnesty period. Tax amnesty periods shall not extend beyond June 30, 2027. The commissioner of revenue may issue such guidelines as he deems appropriate to carry out this section.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr and Fattman moved that the proposed new text be amended by striking section 20 in its entirety.

809

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Fattman, Tarr and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following sections:-

810

“SECTION X. Section 2A of chapter 65C of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out subsection (f), and inserting in place thereof the following:-

‘(f) For the estates of decedents dying on or after January 1, 2025, a credit shall be allowed against the tax imposed by subsections (a) and (b) equal to the amount of such tax; provided, however, that the credit shall not exceed the federal level established in 26 USC § 2010 promulgated by the Internal Revenue Service.’

SECTION X. Said section 2A, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out subsection (g), and inserting in place thereof the following:-

‘(g) The estates of decedents dying on or after January 1, 2025 shall not be required to pay any tax under subsections (a) and (b) if the value of the federal taxable estate is not more than the federal threshold level established in 26 USC Chapter 11 promulgated by the Internal Revenue Service.’”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Tarr moved that the proposed new text be amended by striking section 24 in its entirety.

811

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Fattman, Mrs. Dooner and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following section:-

812

“SECTION X. Section 7A of chapter 271 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out the following:-

‘Any organization conducting or operating a raffle or bazaar under this section shall file a return with the state lottery commission, on a form prepared by it, within ten days after the raffle or bazaar is held and shall pay therewith a tax of five per cent of the gross proceeds

derived from such raffle or bazaar.

All sums received by said commission from the tax imposed by this section as taxes, interest thereon, fees, penalties, forfeitures, costs of suits or fines, less all amounts refunded thereon, together with any interest or costs paid on account of such refunds, shall be paid into the treasury of the commonwealth.’.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Fattman and Tarr, Mrs. Dooner and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following sections:-

“SECTION X. Subsection (d) of section 4 of chapter 62 of the General Laws, is hereby amended by striking out the third and fourth sentences and inserting in place thereof the following:- ‘For purposes of determining the applicability of the additional 4 per cent tax under this subsection, a married couple may elect to file jointly or separately on their Massachusetts return, regardless of their federal filing status. The \$1,000,000 threshold shall apply to each individual filing a separate return.’

SECTION X. Section X shall take effect for taxable years beginning on January 1, 2026.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Fattman, Mrs. Dooner and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following sections:-

“SECTION X. Section 1 of chapter 62 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding the following paragraph:-

(s) ‘Tipped wage’, a sum of money, including any amount designated by a credit card patron, a gift or a gratuity, given as an acknowledgment of any service performed by a wait staff employee, service employee or service bartender.

SECTION X. Paragraph (b) of part B of section 3 of said chapter 62, as so appearing, is hereby amended by adding the following subparagraph:-

(6) An amount equal to the tipped wages earned by the taxpayer within the taxable year.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr, Fattman and Durant and Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following sections:-

“SECTION \_. Section 30A of chapter 90 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after the word ‘policies’ the following words:- ‘, private detectives and private investigator as defined in section 22 of chapter 147 and licensed in accordance with section 25 of chapter 147’.

SECTION \_. Section 30 of chapter 147 is hereby amended by adding after paragraph 11 the following two paragraphs:-

12. Use computer data or equipment under the control of the registrar of motor vehicles in accordance with section 30A of chapter 90 for any purpose inconsistent with section 22 of chapter 147.

13. Access the facial recognition system operated by the registry of motor vehicles.

SECTION \_. Section 30 of chapter 147 is further amended by inserting after the word ‘both’ in line 39 the following words:- ‘; provided, the license of a licensee who violates paragraphs 12 and 13 shall be revoked’.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Tarr, Mrs. Dooner and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following section:-

“SECTION \_. The Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority shall develop a comprehensive plan which outlines the status of the state of repair of all of its systems, assets, and equipment, together with the necessary steps to ensure a state of good repair, safety and compliance will all applicable federal and state safety standards, protocols, laws

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rules and regulations, and efficient operation, cost saving and, to the maximum feasible extent, financial self - sufficiency from own source revenue and other resources not attributable to state taxpayers beyond current levels.

Said plan, together with any recommendations for regulatory or legislative actions necessary to achieve its goals, shall be filed initially with the clerks of the House and Senate not later than 12 months following the passage of this act, and updated annually thereafter not later than March 31 of each year, for a period of five years, unless such requirement is otherwise extended, modified, or terminated.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr, Fattman and Durant, Mrs. Dooner and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following section:-

826

“SECTION\_. Section 2 of chapter 90 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after the twentieth paragraph, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, the following paragraph:-

The registrar shall furnish without charge to the owner of a private passenger motor vehicle who is a parent, child, sibling or spouse of a police officer of a police department of any city town or university, the department of state police or the Massachusetts bay transportation authority police department, who has been killed in the line of duty, upon presentation of satisfactory evidence to the registrar, a distinctive registration plate that reads ‘Blue Star Family’ for 1 private passenger motor vehicle owned and principally used by that person or a distinctive ‘Blue Star Family’ emblem to be affixed to a registration plate for a motorcycle privately owned and principally used by that person. The registrar may issue a distinctive ‘Blue Star Family’ registration of up to 6 characters for 1 private passenger motor vehicle owned and principally used by that person. A police officer shall be determined to have been killed in the line of duty for purposes of this paragraph if the circumstance meets those which would make them eligible to be placed on the National Law Enforcement Memorial in Washington D.C.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr and Durant, Mrs. Dooner and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following section:-

834

“SECTION\_. Clause (b) of Section 3A of Chapter 40A is hereby amended by inserting after the end thereof the following words:- ‘; provided further no other state funding or grants shall be added without specific statutory authorization’.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr, Fattman and Durant and Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended by striking out section 23 in its entirety.

838

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr and Durant, Mrs. Dooner and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following sections:-

843

“SECTION\_. Section 39 of Chapter 265 as appearing in the 2022 official edition is hereby amended by striking in line 5 the word ‘five’ and inserting in place thereof the following:- ‘ten’.

SECTION\_. Said section 39 of chapter 265 as appearing in the 2022 official edition is hereby amended by striking in line 6 the words ‘in a house of correction’ and inserting in place thereof the following:- ‘state prison’.

SECTION\_. Said section 39 of chapter 265 as appearing in the 2022 official edition is hereby amended by striking in line 7 the words:- ‘two and one-half years’ and inserting in place thereof the following:- ‘five’.

SECTION\_. Said section 39 of chapter 265 as appearing in the 2022 official edition is hereby amended by striking in line 19 the word:- ‘ten’ and inserting in place thereof the following:- ‘twenty’.

SECTION \_\_. Said section 39 of chapter 265 as appearing in the 2022 official edition is hereby amended by striking in line 20 the word:- ‘five’ and inserting in place thereof the following:- ‘ten’.

SECTION \_\_. Said section 39 of chapter 265 as appearing in the 2022 official edition is hereby amended by striking in line 31 the word:- ‘one’ and inserting in place thereof the following:- ‘two’.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr and Eldridge and Ms. Rausch moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 0321-0100, by striking out the figure “\$2,349,408” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$2,589,655”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Fattman and Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following section:-

“SECTION X. Chapter 64 of the Acts of 2023 is hereby amended by inserting at the end of section 2 the following subsection:-

(d) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, section 87A of chapter 127 shall not apply to an individual committed to a state correctional facility, state prison, or county correctional facility who has been found guilty of any of the following crimes: rape, rape of a child, first degree murder, second degree murder, attempted murder, sexual assault, assault and battery on second offense, assault and battery with dangerous weapon, arson, stalking, and armed robbery.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Fattman and Tarr and Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following sections:-

“SECTION X. 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: Honoring Federal Immigration Detainers Issued by the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement

Section 20S. (a) For purposes of this section, the term ‘law enforcement agency’ shall include but not be limited to any state, municipal, college or university police department, sheriff’s department, correctional facility, prosecutorial office, court, probation office, or any other non-federal entity in the commonwealth charged with the enforcement of laws or the custody of detained persons. Upon receipt of a written request from the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement requesting detention of an individual on the grounds that there is probable cause that such person is a removable alien, law enforcement agencies may comply with the terms of any detainer request received under any of the following circumstances:

(i) The individual has been convicted or charged with an aggravated felony offense as defined in 8 USC § 1101(a)(43), including but not limited to, murder, rape, sexual abuse of a minor, illicit drug trafficking, and illicit firearms trafficking.

(ii) The individual has been convicted or charged with a violent crime as defined in 18 USC § 16.

(iii) The individual has been convicted or charged with a criminal street gang offense as defined in 18 USC § 521.

(iv) The individual has been convicted or charged with a terrorism offense as defined in 18 USC Chapter 113B.

(b) Any law enforcement agency employee may comply with a United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement detention request if said employee determines that the alien poses a threat to public safety, or other compelling argument supporting the alien’s detention.

SECTION X. Section X shall take effect upon its passage.”

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The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr, Fattman and Durant, Mrs. Dooner and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following section:-

870

“SECTION\_. Chapter 32 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 89E the following section:-

Section 89F. If a sworn police officer of a police department of city or town, a sworn police officer of the department of state police or a firefighter for a fire department of a city or town, is killed, or dies from injuries received, or dies as a natural or proximate result of undergoing a hazard peculiar to his or her employment, while in the performance of his or her duty, their next of kin shall receive a flag of the commonwealth of Massachusetts and a flag of the United States during the memorial service, the cost of which shall be borne by the Commonwealth.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr, Fattman and Durant and Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following section:-

871

“SECTION\_. Chapter 276 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2016 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

(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.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Tarr moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8100-1001, by adding the following words:- “; provided that funds from this item shall be expended for the continued operation of the HART unit, so - called, to address hate crimes, and provided further, that said unit shall collaborate to the maximum feasible extent with local and federal law enforcement agencies”.

874

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr, Fattman and Durant and Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following sections:-

911

“SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. Section 30 of chapter 266 of the General Laws, as amended by Chapter 69 of the Acts of 2018, is hereby amended by inserting at the end of the first paragraph the following:-

For purpose of this section, multiple violations of either this section or section 30A of this chapter occurring within a one hundred eighty day period may be aggregated into a single count with the aggregated value of the property stolen used to determine whether the violation is a misdemeanor or felony as provided herein.

SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. Section 37B of chapter 266 of the General Laws, as amended by Chapter 69 of the Acts of 2018, is hereby amended by inserting at the end of the first paragraph the following:-

A series of two or more violations of this section occurring within a one hundred and eighty day period may be aggregated into a single count with the aggregated value of money, goods, or services obtained used to determine whether the violation is a misdemeanor or felony as provided herein.

SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. Section 37C of chapter 266 of the General Laws, as amended by

Chapter 69 of the Acts of 2018, is hereby amended by inserting at the end of the first paragraph the following:-

A series of two or more violations of this section occurring within a one hundred and eighty day period may be aggregated into a single count with the aggregated value of money, goods, or services obtained used to determine whether the violation is a misdemeanor or felony as provided herein.

SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. Section 60 of chapter 266 of the General Laws, as amended by Chapter 69 of the Acts of 2018, is hereby amended by inserting at the end of the first paragraph the following:-

A series of two or more violations of this section occurring within a one hundred and eighty day period may be aggregated into a single count with the aggregated value of property obtained used to determine whether the violation is a misdemeanor or felony as provided herein.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr, Fattman and Durant, Mrs. Dooner and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following section:-

“SECTION \_\_A. Chapter 268 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 13E the following section:-

Section 13F. Whoever unlawfully and with intent removes, destroys, damages or interferes with the proper functioning of a geolocation monitoring device or other mechanism intended to facilitate recognizance or compliance with conditions of pretrial release, probation or parole shall be punished by imprisonment in a house of correction for not more than 2 and one-half years; provided, however, that a second and subsequent offense shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for not more than 5 years or imprisonment in a house of correction for not more than 2 and one-half years. In any proceeding under section 57 to 58B, inclusive, of chapter 276, the fact of a person’s prior conviction pursuant to this section shall be prima facie evidence that there is no financial condition or other condition of release that will reasonably assure the presence of the person so convicted.

SECTION \_\_B. Section 58A of chapter 276 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2020 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the word ‘or’, in line 8, the following words:- ‘a sex offense involving a child as defined in section 178C of chapter 6, or a violation of sections 13, 13½, 13B, 13B½, 13B¾, 13F, 13M, 15D, 18B, 22, 22A, 22B, 22C, 23A, 23B, 24, 25, 26B, 26C, 37, 43A, 50 or 51 of chapter 265, or a violation of section 23 of chapter 265; provided, however, that this clause shall not apply when the person charged pursuant to said section 23 of said chapter 265 is under 16 years of age or is within 2 years of the age of the alleged victim’.

SECTION \_\_C. Said chapter 276 is hereby further amended by inserting after section 58B the following section:-

Section 58C. No person who has attained the age of 18 years and who has been charged with any act that would constitute abuse, as defined in section 1 of chapter 209A, or a violation of sections 13M or 15D of chapter 265 or any offense enumerated in subsection 1 of section 58A that involves an identified victim shall be admitted to bail before all reasonable efforts are made to notify the alleged victim of the person’s imminent release; provided, however, that the person charged shall not be held more than 6 hours in order to permit prior notice to the alleged victim.

When a person so charged is to be released from the custody of a police department, such notice shall be provided by the police department. When a person so charged is to be released from a courthouse, such notice shall be provided by the commonwealth. When a person so charged is to be released from a jail or correctional facility, such notice shall be provided by the superintendent or a designee. The person or agency responsible for

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providing notice shall undertake to provide notice promptly.’.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Fattman, Tarr, O'Connor and Montigny moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 8000-0313, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$500,000 shall be expended for a grant program to be administered by the executive office of public safety and security for municipalities, public colleges and universities and nonprofit organizations to purchase automated external defibrillators for public safety and first responder vehicles; provided further, that priority shall be given to municipalities with a population not more than 20,000 persons and to nonprofit organizations; provided further, that not later than March 1, 2026, the secretary of public safety and security shall submit a report to the clerks of the house of representatives and senate and the house and senate committees on ways and means that shall include, but not be limited to: (i) a list of the municipalities, public colleges and universities and nonprofit organizations receiving grant funds; and (ii) the amount of grant funds distributed to each municipality, public college and university and non-profit organization”; and by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$600,000”.

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The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Fattman, Mrs. Dooner and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following section:-

935

“SECTION X. Chapter 151 of the acts of 2020 is hereby amended by inserting after the word ‘footage’ in item 8000-2026 the following:- ‘and cloud based storage systems’.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Fattman and O'Connor and Ms. Edwards moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following section:-

936

“SECTION X. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the executive office of veterans services shall develop a program to track all suicides among veterans currently or previously serving in the Massachusetts National Guard. This program shall be developed in accordance with all state and federal privacy laws. This program shall be operational no later than 6 months following the passage of this act.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

**As previously stated, the above amendments were considered as one and *rejected*.**

Messrs. Tarr, Fattman and Durant, Mrs. Dooner and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following section:-

13

“SECTION\_. Section 18 of Chapter 358 of the Acts of 2020 is hereby amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:-

(d) The Executive office of housing and livable communities shall develop and promulgate regulations to allow a municipality affected by the zoning provisions of this section to appeal for relief from such provisions based on one or more of the following:

1. The inability to meet the drinking water supply requirements necessary to support the housing units authorized by such provisions
2. The inability to meet the wastewater treatment requirements necessary to support such units
3. The inability of municipal transportation infrastructure to safely accommodate increased population attributable to housing development pursuant to such provisions
4. Any adverse environmental impacts attributable to the developments of housing units pursuant to such provisions.”

After debate, the question on adoption of the amendment was determined by a call of the yeas and nays at twenty-nine minutes past four o'clock P.M., on motion of Mr. Tarr, as follows, to wit (yeas 5 – nays 34) **[Yeas and Nays No. 43]:**

**YEAS.**

Dooner, Kelly A.  
Durant, Peter J.  
Fattman, Ryan C.

O'Connor, Patrick M.  
Tarr, Bruce E. – 5.

**NAYS.**

Barrett, Michael J.  
Brady, Michael D.  
Brownsberger, William N.  
Collins, Nick  
Comerford, Joanne M.  
Creem, Cynthia Stone  
Crighton, Brendan P.  
Cronin, John J.  
Cyr, Julian  
DiDomenico, Sal N.  
Driscoll, Jr., William J.  
Edwards, Lydia  
Eldridge, James B.  
Feeney, Paul R.  
Fernandes, Dylan A.  
Finegold, Barry R.  
Friedman, Cindy F.

Gómez, Adam  
Jehlen, Patricia D.  
Keenan, John F.  
Kennedy, Edward J.  
Kennedy, Robyn K.  
Lewis, Jason M.  
Lovely, Joan B.  
Mark, Paul W.  
Miranda, Liz  
Montigny, Mark C.  
Moore, Michael O.  
Oliveira, Jacob R.  
Payano, Pavel  
Rausch, Rebecca L.  
Rodrigues, Michael J.  
Rush, Michael F.  
Velis, John C. – 34.

The yeas and nays having been completed at twenty-five minutes before five o'clock P.M., the amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr, Fattman and Durant and Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following section:-

“SECTION \_\_. There shall be a special commission to conduct an analysis of the impacts on employers in the commonwealth of unemployment insurance cost increases attributable to the disallowed use of federal COVID-19 relief funds for unemployment claims, and the resulting settlement agreement between the commonwealth and the federal government, and develop recommendations for mitigating, to the maximum feasible extent, cost increases caused by these factors. The commission shall consist of 13 members, including the Secretary of Labor And Workforce Development, or a designee, whom shall act as its chair, and 12 members appointed by the governor, one of which shall represent the National Federation of Independent Business, one of which shall represent the Retailers Association of Massachusetts, one of whom shall represent the Associated Industries of Massachusetts, two of whom shall represent organized labor in the commonwealth, two of whom shall represent employees not affiliated with organized labor in the commonwealth, two of which shall be affiliated with the University of Massachusetts, one of which shall have experience in labor law, and one of which shall have experience in economics, and one member representing the Massachusetts Taxpayers Foundation. In carrying out the provisions of this section, the commission shall meet not less than 3 times, and conduct not less than 3 public hearings in geographically diverse regions of the commonwealth, provided that at least one of which shall allow remote electronic participation. The commission shall file a report of its findings, together with any legislative, regulatory and other recommendations, with the clerks of the House and Senate, the Senate and House Committees on Ways and Means, the Joint Committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies, and the Secretary of Administration and Finance not later than December 31, 2025.”

After debate, the question on adoption of the amendment was determined by a call of the yeas and nays at fourteen minutes before five o'clock P.M., on motion of Mr. Tarr, as

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follows, to wit (yeas 5 – nays 34) [**Yeas and Nays No. 44**]:

**YEAS.**

Dooner, Kelly A.	O'Connor, Patrick M.
Durant, Peter J.	Tarr, Bruce E. – <b>5.</b>
Fattman, Ryan C.	

**NAYS.**

Barrett, Michael J.	Gómez, Adam
Brady, Michael D.	Jehlen, Patricia D.
Brownsberger, William N.	Keenan, John F.
Collins, Nick	Kennedy, Edward J.
Comerford, Joanne M.	Kennedy, Robyn K.
Creem, Cynthia Stone	Lewis, Jason M.
Crighton, Brendan P.	Lovely, Joan B.
Cronin, John J.	Mark, Paul W.
Cyr, Julian	Miranda, Liz
DiDomenico, Sal N.	Montigny, Mark C.
Driscoll, Jr., William J.	Moore, Michael O.
Edwards, Lydia	Oliveira, Jacob R.
Eldridge, James B.	Payano, Pavel
Feeney, Paul R.	Rausch, Rebecca L.
Fernandes, Dylan A.	Rodrigues, Michael J.
Finegold, Barry R.	Rush, Michael F.
Friedman, Cindy F.	Velis, John C. – <b>34.</b>

The yeas and nays having been completed at eight minutes before five o'clock P.M., the amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr and Fattman moved that the proposed new text be amended by striking section 74 in its entirety and inserting in place thereof the following:-

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“SECTION 74. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the comptroller shall transfer capital gains collected in excess of the threshold under section 5G of chapter 29 of the General Laws on a quarterly basis as follows: (i) 10 per cent to the Commonwealth's Pension Liability Fund established in subsection (e) of subdivision (8) of section 22 of chapter 32 of the General Laws of said section 22C of said chapter 32 which shall go towards satisfying the fiscal year 2026 requirements set forth in subdivision (1) of said section 22C of said chapter 32; (ii) 80 per cent to the Commonwealth Stabilization Fund established in section 2H of chapter 29 of the General Laws; and (iii) 10 per cent to the State Retiree Benefits Trust Fund established in section 24 of chapter 32A of the General Laws.”

After remarks, the question on adoption of the amendment was determined by a call of the yeas and nays at six minutes past five o'clock P.M., on motion of Mr. Tarr, as follows, to wit (yeas 5 – nays 34) [**Yeas and Nays No. 45**]:

**YEAS.**

Dooner, Kelly A.	O'Connor, Patrick M.
Durant, Peter J.	Tarr, Bruce E. – <b>5.</b>
Fattman, Ryan C.	

**NAYS.**

Barrett, Michael J.	Gómez, Adam
Brady, Michael D.	Jehlen, Patricia D.
Brownsberger, William N.	Keenan, John F.
Collins, Nick	Kennedy, Edward J.
Comerford, Joanne M.	Kennedy, Robyn K.

Creem, Cynthia Stone  
Crighton, Brendan P.  
Cronin, John J.  
Cyr, Julian  
DiDomenico, Sal N.  
Driscoll, Jr., William J.  
Edwards, Lydia  
Eldridge, James B.  
Feeney, Paul R.  
Fernandes, Dylan A.  
Finegold, Barry R.  
Friedman, Cindy F.

Lewis, Jason M.  
Lovely, Joan B.  
Mark, Paul W.  
Miranda, Liz  
Montigny, Mark C.  
Moore, Michael O.  
Oliveira, Jacob R.  
Payano, Pavel  
Rausch, Rebecca L.  
Rodrigues, Michael J.  
Rush, Michael F.  
Velis, John C. – 34.

The yeas and nays having been completed at twelve minutes past five o'clock P.M., the amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr, Montigny, Durant, O'Connor and Fattman moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following sections:-

“SECTION \_\_. Chapter 25 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding the following section:-

Section 24. Public Hearing and Comment Period for Department of Public Utilities Rate Changes

(a) The Department of Public Utilities shall be required to hold at least one public hearing and a 30-day public comment period before approving any rate increase, including changes to delivery fees or other charges.

(b) The department shall provide notice of such hearings in a manner that ensures accessibility, including publication on the department's website, written notifications to affected municipalities, and public service announcements.

SECTION \_\_. Subsection (a) of section 142K of chapter 111 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting at the end thereof the following paragraph:-

Notwithstanding any general or special law, rule, or regulation to the contrary, the commonwealth, either through the department of environmental protection or any other agency or political subdivision thereof, shall not implement or enforce the Advanced Clean Cars II regulations, as modified to apply to Massachusetts, earlier than July 1, 2027. As used in this section, 'Advanced Clean Cars II regulations' shall mean the portion of the California Low Emission Vehicle Program that was adopted by the California Air Resources Board in Title 13 of the California Code of Regulations at section 1962.4 and as promulgated by the commonwealth at 310 CMR 7.40.

SECTION \_\_. Chapter 164 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by adding the following section:-

Section 149. Rate and Delivery Fee Increase Cap

(a) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, no investor-owned electric or gas distribution company shall increase delivery fees or rates by more than 3 percent per year, adjusted annually based on the Consumer Price Index for the Northeast region, as determined by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

(b) The department shall adopt regulations necessary to implement this section, including provisions ensuring transparency in rate adjustments and consumer notifications.

SECTION \_\_. Said chapter of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by adding the following section:-

Section 150. Veteran Utility Rate Reduction Program

(a) The department shall establish a Veteran Utility Rate Reduction Program that

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expands upon the existing tiered rate structure, specifically targeting veterans, as defined by section 1 of chapter 115, and those receiving VA disability compensation.

(b) The department shall ensure that eligible veterans receive utility delivery fee discounts contingent upon and aligned with the existing tiered low-income discount structure as established by the department, with veterans qualifying for equivalent or greater benefits under the same income thresholds.

(c) The department shall promulgate regulations necessary for the implementation of this section, ensuring that verification of eligibility for the veteran discount aligns with existing procedures for income-based discounts, utilizing VA records and other appropriate documentation. The department shall also conduct outreach efforts to maximize veteran participation in the program.

SECTION \_\_. Said chapter of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by adding the following section:-

Section 151. Senior Utility Rate Reduction Program

The department shall establish a utility rate reduction program for residents of the commonwealth aged 65 and older to provide discounted utility delivery fees. The department shall promulgate regulations to determine eligibility criteria, discount rates, and ensure streamlined implementation.

SECTION X. Chapter 169 of the acts of 2008 is hereby amended by inserting after section 116, the following sections:-

Section 116A. The executive office of energy and environmental affairs shall annually report the estimated or actual ratepayer cost and benefits of each program and policy required under chapter 169 of the acts of 2008 to the joint committee on telecommunications, utilities and energy. Said report shall be submitted to the committee no later than January 31 of each year. Whenever possible, the reported costs shall be presented on a volumetric percentage of electricity supplied from renewable resources to each end user customer class.

Section 116B. All information reported by the executive office of energy and environmental affairs as required under section 116A of this act shall be made available as a public record and posted to the department of energy resources website simultaneously with submittal to the joint committee on telecommunications, utilities and energy.

Section 116C. All actual ratepayer costs of each program and policy required under chapter 169 of the acts of 2008 shall be itemized on each end user's electric utility bill.

SECTION X. Chapter 179 of the acts of 2022 is hereby amended by inserting after section 91, the following sections:-

Section 91A. The executive office of energy and environmental affairs shall annually report the estimated or actual ratepayer cost and benefits of each program and policy required under chapter 179 of the acts of 2022 to the joint committee on telecommunications, utilities and energy. Said report shall be submitted to the committee no later than January 31 of each year. Whenever possible, the reported costs shall be presented on a volumetric percentage of electricity supplied from renewable resources to each end user customer class.

Section 91B. All information reported by the executive office of energy and environmental affairs as required under section 91A of this act shall be made available as a public record and posted to the department of energy resources website simultaneously with submittal to the joint committee on telecommunications, utilities and energy.

Section 91C. All actual ratepayer costs of each program and policy required under chapter 179 of the acts of 2022 shall be itemized on each end user's electric utility bill."

SECTION \_\_. Chapter 239 of the acts of 2024 is hereby amended by inserting after section 136, the following sections:-

Section 136A. The executive office of energy and environmental affairs shall annually

report the estimated or actual ratepayer cost and benefits of each program and policy required under chapter 239 of the acts of 2024 to the joint committee on telecommunications, utilities and energy. Said report shall be submitted to the committee no later than January 31 of each year. Whenever possible, the reported costs shall be presented on a volumetric percentage of electricity supplied from renewable resources to each end user customer class.

Section 136B. All information reported by the executive office of energy and environmental affairs as required under section 136A of this act shall be made available as a public record and posted to the department of energy resources website simultaneously with submittal to the joint committee on telecommunications, utilities and energy.

Section 116C. All actual ratepayer costs of each program and policy required under chapter 239 of the acts of 2024 shall be itemized on each end user's electric utility bill.

SECTION \_\_. The department of public utilities shall promulgate rules and regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this act.

SECTION \_\_. The department of energy resources shall promulgate rules and regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this act.

SECTION \_\_. There shall be a special commission to study and recommend reforms to utility delivery fee structures, industry best practices, and cost-reduction measures for consumers in the Commonwealth. The commission shall analyze the impact of delivery fees on ratepayers, identify the primary cost drivers, and evaluate regulatory or market-based strategies to mitigate excessive charges while ensuring reliable service. The commission shall assess the impact of delivery fees on consumer costs, market competition, and energy affordability through a review of historical rate structures, policy comparisons with other states, stakeholder input, and financial modeling to identify potential reforms that could reduce costs while maintaining reliable service. Additionally, the commission shall review the effectiveness of existing regulations governing delivery fees, identify potential legislative or administrative adjustments to enhance pricing transparency and efficiency, any and all options for reducing such costs in the short and long terms, together with the impacts of such options on efforts to reduce carbon emissions pursuant to current statutory and regulatory obligations, and the impacts of such options on employment levels and the economy of the commonwealth.

The commission shall consist of the House and Senate chairs of the Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities, and Energy, who shall serve as co-chairs; the Speaker of the House of Representatives or a designee; the President of the Senate or a designee; the House Minority Leader or a designee; the Senate Minority Leader or a designee; the chair of the department of public utilities commission or their designee, the director of the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center, 10 members appointed by the governor, three of whom shall represent electric transmission and distribution companies of electricity in the commonwealth, of which one shall represent municipal light plants in the commonwealth, two of whom shall have expertise in energy policy and represent consumers in the commonwealth, one of whom shall represent large employers in the commonwealth, one of whom shall represent small employers in the commonwealth, one member representing the New England Power Generators Association, and one member representing the Independent Systems Operator for New England, one member representing environmental organizations in the commonwealth, and one member appointed by the attorney general of the commonwealth with expertise in energy policy. Administrative support for the operations of the commission shall be provided by the department of public utilities.

The commission shall submit a report detailing its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the House and Senate Committees on Ways and Means, the Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities, and Energy, and the Clerks of the House of Representatives and Senate no later than twelve months after the passage of

this legislation.

SECTION \_\_\_\_ . The department of public utilities shall develop, implement, and maintain, a comprehensive, public- facing dashboard to display information relative to the cost and supply of energy for commercial and residential consumers in the commonwealth, provided that such information shall include but not be limited to: i) investor owned transmission and distribution companies of electricity, organized by region, ii) current rates for natural gas and electricity for each such company, iii) a clear and easily digestible explanation of the components of gas and electricity bills in the commonwealth, including regional variations, iv) the sources of gas and electricity being delivered by such companies, v) the date of the most recently approved rates for gas and electricity for each company, and vi) a summary of the proceedings by which those rates were approved, vii) the duration of the currently approved rates and any anticipated new rate case filings, viii) any available incentives or discounts to reduce the consumer cost of electricity and natural gas, ix) average daily, monthly, and yearly consumption of gas and electricity, and any other relevant information.”

After debate, the question on adoption of the amendment was determined by a call of the yeas and nays at ten minutes before six o’clock P.M., on motion of Mr. Tarr, as follows, to wit (yeas 9 – nays 30) **[Yeas and Nays No. 46]:**

**YEAS.**

Brady, Michael D.  
Collins, Nick  
Dooner, Kelly A.  
Durant, Peter J.  
Fattman, Ryan C.

Montigny, Mark C.  
Moore, Michael O.  
O'Connor, Patrick M.  
Tarr, Bruce E. – **9.**

**NAYS.**

Barrett, Michael J.  
Brownsberger, William N.  
Comerford, Joanne M.  
Creem, Cynthia Stone  
Crighton, Brendan P.  
Cronin, John J.  
Cyr, Julian  
DiDomenico, Sal N.  
Driscoll, Jr., William J.  
Edwards, Lydia  
Eldridge, James B.  
Feeney, Paul R.  
Fernandes, Dylan A.  
Finegold, Barry R.  
Friedman, Cindy F.

Gómez, Adam  
Jehlen, Patricia D.  
Keenan, John F.  
Kennedy, Edward J.  
Kennedy, Robyn K.  
Lewis, Jason M.  
Lovely, Joan B.  
Mark, Paul W.  
Miranda, Liz  
Oliveira, Jacob R.  
Payano, Pavel  
Rausch, Rebecca L.  
Rodrigues, Michael J.  
Rush, Michael F.  
Velis, John C. – **30.**

The yeas and nays having been completed at six minutes past six o’clock P.M., the amendment was *rejected*.

*Resolutions.*

The following resolutions (having been filed with the Clerk) were considered forthwith and adopted, as follows:-

Resolutions (filed by Messrs. Brady, Oliveira, Collins, Fattman, Lewis, Rush and Keenan, Ms. Edwards, Mr. DiDomenico, Ms. Comerford, Mr. O’Connor, Ms. Jehlen, Messrs. Tarr, Montigny, Gomez, Brownsberger, Kennedy, Eldridge, Feeney and Fernandes,

Amyotrophic  
Lateral Sclerosis  
Association,  
Massachusetts



Ms. Lovely and Messrs. Finegold and Velis) “commending Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Association, Massachusetts Chapter, Inc. on its recognition of May, 2025 as Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Awareness Month.”

Chapter, Inc.

*Orders of the Day.*

The Orders of the Day were further considered as follows:

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. 4001),-- was further considered, the main question being on ordering the bill to a third reading.

General  
appropriations bill.

Messrs. Tarr, Fattman and Durant, Mrs. Dooner and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following sections:-

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“SECTION\_A. Section 37 of the chapter 50 of the acts of 2023 is hereby amended by being struck in its entirety and inserting in place thereof the following:-‘Said section 2A of said chapter 65C, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by adding the following 2 subsections: (f) For the estates of decedents dying on or after July 1, 2023, a credit shall be allowed against the tax imposed by subsections (a) and (b) equal to the amount of such tax; provided, however, that the credit shall not exceed \$182,000. (g) The estates of decedents dying on or after July 1, 2023 shall not be required to pay any tax under subsections (a) and (b) if the value of the federal taxable estate is not more than \$3,000,000, provided said taxable estate amount shall be adjusted annually to reflect any increases in the cost of living by the same method used for federal income tax brackets.’

“SECTION\_B. Section 37 of the chapter 50 of the acts of 2023 is hereby amended by being struck in its entirety and inserting in place thereof the following:-‘Said section 2A of said chapter 65C, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by adding the following 2 subsections: (f) For the estates of decedents dying on or after July 1, 2023, a credit shall be allowed against the tax imposed by subsections (a) and (b) equal to the amount of such tax; provided, however, that the credit shall not exceed \$182,000. (g) The estates of decedents dying on or after July 1, 2023 shall not be required to pay any tax under subsections (a) and (b) if the value of the federal taxable estate is not more than \$4,000,000, provided said taxable estate amount shall be adjusted annually to reflect any increases in the cost of living by the same method used for federal income tax brackets.’

“SECTION\_C. Section 37 of the chapter 50 of the acts of 2023 is hereby amended by being struck in its entirety and inserting in place thereof the following:-‘Said section 2A of said chapter 65C, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by adding the following 2 subsections: (f) For the estates of decedents dying on or after July 1, 2023, a credit shall be allowed against the tax imposed by subsections (a) and (b) equal to the amount of such tax; provided, however, that the credit shall not exceed \$182,000. (g) The estates of decedents dying on or after July 1, 2023 shall not be required to pay any tax under subsections (a) and (b) if the value of the federal taxable estate is not more than \$5,000,000, provided said taxable estate amount shall be adjusted annually to reflect any increases in the cost of living by the same method used for federal income tax brackets.’

SECTION\_SECTION\_A shall take effect 1 year after the passage of this act.

SECTION\_SECTION\_B shall take effect 2 years after the passage of this act.

SECTION\_SECTION\_C shall take effect 3 years after the passage of this act.

SECTION\_SECTION\_A shall expire upon the implementation of SECTION\_B

SECTION\_SECTION\_B shall expire upon the implementation of SECTION\_C.”

After debate, the question on adoption of the amendment was determined by a call of the yeas and nays at twenty-three minutes past six o'clock P.M., on motion of Mr. Tarr, as

follows, to wit (yeas 5 – nays 34) [Yeas and Nays No. 47]:

**YEAS.**

Dooner, Kelly A.	O'Connor, Patrick M.
Durant, Peter J.	Tarr, Bruce E. – <b>5.</b>
Fattman, Ryan C.	

**NAYS.**

Barrett, Michael J.	Gómez, Adam
Brady, Michael D.	Jehlen, Patricia D.
Brownsberger, William N.	Keenan, John F.
Collins, Nick	Kennedy, Edward J.
Comerford, Joanne M.	Kennedy, Robyn K.
Creem, Cynthia Stone	Lewis, Jason M.
Crighton, Brendan P.	Lovely, Joan B.
Cronin, John J.	Mark, Paul W.
Cyr, Julian	Miranda, Liz
DiDomenico, Sal N.	Montigny, Mark C.
Driscoll, Jr., William J.	Moore, Michael O.
Edwards, Lydia	Oliveira, Jacob R.
Eldridge, James B.	Payano, Pavel
Feeney, Paul R.	Rausch, Rebecca L.
Fernandes, Dylan A.	Rodrigues, Michael J.
Finegold, Barry R.	Rush, Michael F.
Friedman, Cindy F.	Velis, John C. – <b>34.</b>

The yeas and nays having been completed at half past six o'clock P.M., the amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Tarr and Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following section:-

277

“SECTION 112 sub section 60B of Chapter 165 of the Acts of 2012 is hereby amended by inserting at the end the following section:-

‘(i) the Committee shall hold at least one public hearing per year in a geographically equitable area so as to solicit testimony from the public with regards to the issues before the committee’.”; and

In said subsection 60B(f) by adding the following:- “(12) making recommendations to the Governor for the purposes of reducing bonded indebtedness and to further reduce the cost of debt services.”

After remarks, the amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Lewis, Ms. Rausch, Messrs. Durant, Gómez and Mark, Ms. Kennedy, Messrs. Moore, Eldridge and Keenan, Ms. Edwards, Messrs. Driscoll, Payano, Finegold, O'Connor, Cronin and Oliveira, Ms. Jehlen, Ms. Lovely and Messrs. Velis, Kennedy, Rush, Crighton, Brady, Montigny and Tarr moved that the bill be amended, in section 2, in item 7010-0005, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$200,000 shall be expended for the department to study and make recommendations to improve the adequacy and equitability of the formula to determine a municipality’s target local contribution and required local contribution, as those terms are defined in section 2 of chapter 70 of the general laws; provided further, that said study and recommendations shall include, but not be limited to: (i) the adequacy and equity of the methodology used to determine a municipality’s target local contribution and required local contribution as a measure of a municipality’s ability to contribute to its foundation budget; (ii) the impact of local contributions to pre-kindergarten through grade 12, inclusive, education on municipalities’

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ability to maintain and fund adequate levels of municipal services, including aggregate trends in municipal spending on education and non-educational services and primary drivers of such trends; (iii) the impact of the fixed 59 per cent local share of the statewide foundation budget on the calculation of combined effort yield for each municipality; (iv) the extent to which the wealth and income measures in the formula accurately and fairly determine a municipality's ability to contribute to its foundation budget costs; (v) the impact of the growing number of municipalities that are subject to the 82.5 per cent maximum local required contribution cap; (vi) the number of municipalities receiving minimum per pupil aid and the impact of such aid on those municipalities; (vii) the impact of section 21C of chapter 59 of the General Laws on municipalities and their ability to make their required local contributions; and (viii) potential additional methods of measuring a municipality's ability to contribute to its share of education funding; provided further, that the department shall identify the implications of changes to the existing mechanisms that determine municipal contributions and the total state target local contribution including, but not limited to: (a) changes to maximum local required contribution caps, including the establishment of different maximum local required contribution tiers based on a municipality's fiscal capacity relative to their foundation budget; (b) changes to the total statewide target local contribution; (c) impacts of declining enrollments on state and municipal contribution targets since the adoption of the aggregate wealth model; (d) changes that would address challenges that are unique to rural and regional districts; and (e) to the extent feasible, what the potential impacts of such changes would be if phased in over multiple years; provided further, that the department shall work in collaboration with the division of local services to inform its analysis of existing and potential modifications to local contribution requirements; provided further, that the department shall solicit public input and hold not less than 4 public hearings in different geographic areas of the commonwealth; provided further, that the department shall post a draft report and hold a public hearing and solicit public comment on said draft report; provided further, that not later than June 30, 2026, the department shall submit its final report to the joint committee on education and the house and senate committees on ways and means, which shall include recommendations for regulatory and legislative changes".

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

*Moment of Silence.*

At the request of the Chair (Ms. Creem), the members, guests and staff stood in a moment of silence and reflection to the memory of Yaron Lischinsky and Sarah Lynn Milgrim.

Moment of silence.

At the request of the Chair (Ms. Creem), the members, guests and staff stood in a moment of silence and reflection to the memory of Leslie A. Feeney.

Moment of silence.

*Orders of the Day*

The Orders of the Day were further considered as follows:

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. 4001),-- was further considered, the main question being on ordering the bill to a third reading.

General  
appropriations bill.

Mr. Brownsberger in the Chair, Messrs. Tarr, Fattman, Durant, O'Connor and Cyr moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting the text of Senate document numbered 2523 relative to First Time Homebuyers Savings Account.

250

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr, Durant and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following section:-

257

“SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. The University of Massachusetts shall conduct a study of changes in the population in the commonwealth in the last 10 years, projected changes in the next 10 years, the causes therefore and the impacts thereof, so as to inform the decisions of state government. In conducting said study, the university shall create an advisory panel for the purposes of consultation and guidance, which shall include the Chancellor or a designee, representatives selected by the governor from the Executive Office of Administration and Finance, the Executive Office of Economic Development, the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities, the Executive Office of Education, the Executive Office of Health and Human Services and the department of revenue, members of the university faculty with expertise in demographics, economics, health care, education and planning, two representatives of organized labor in the commonwealth, two representatives of employers in the commonwealth, and 3 members representing communities of different sizes in the commonwealth.

Said study shall examine population history and trends, factors impacting population changes such as levels of taxation, the costs of housing, energy, transportation and education, climate change and adaptation, and any other relevant factors identified by the advisory panel. The study shall also examine the impacts of foreseeable population changes on the state's economy, housing, environmental protection, energy consumption, environmental protection, municipal and state tax revenue, state and local government spending, and municipalities and school districts. In conducting such study the university shall conduct no less than 3 public hearings in geographically diverse regions of the commonwealth, and shall consult with persons and organizations with relevant expertise.

The university shall submit the report detailing the findings of said study with the clerks of the House and Senate, not later than June 30, 2026.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr, Durant, O'Connor and Fattman moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7002-0010, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that the office shall conduct a review of the commonwealth's competitiveness with regard to the costs of taxation, labor, physical space, and health insurance, compared to other states, provided that the findings of said review and comparison shall be filed in a report to the clerks of the House and Senate no later than June 1, 2026.”

258

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr and Durant, Mrs. Dooner and Messrs. Montigny, Collins and Fattman moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following sections:-

261

“SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. Section 14C of chapter 7 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by inserting after the definition of ‘Funding source’ the following definition:- ‘Quasi-public independent entity’, a corporation that: (i) is supported by the government to provide services to citizens, including, but not limited to, operating public buses and rail systems, developing drinking water and managing public pension information; and (ii) has certain budgetary, governing and policy-making independence from the executive and legislative branches.

SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. Said section 14C of said chapter 7, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by adding the following subsection:- (i) A quasi-public independent entity shall submit compensation information to the comptroller who shall post such information on the searchable website. The state auditor shall publicly post audits conducted of quasi-public independent entities on its website.”

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Tarr, Durant, Fattman and Montigny moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following section:-

278

“SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. Section 8 of chapter 30B of the general laws is hereby amended, by adding at the end thereof the following:–‘No emergency procurement contract entered into pursuant to this section where the commonwealth is a party and the total value of the contract exceeds \$100,000 shall endure for a period of more than 90 days, provided, however that such a contract may be extended for subsequent periods of no more than 90 days upon written findings of the necessity of such extension, consistent with the provisions of this section, which shall be entered upon the record. The procurement officer shall make a record of each emergency as soon after the procurement as practicable, specifying each contractor's name, the amount and the type of each contract, a listing of the supply or service provided under each contract, and the basis for determining the need for an emergency procurement, provided that such record shall include written findings specifying the cause and circumstances of the emergency, the reasons why it was not reasonably foreseeable, and any identifiable risks arising from not utilizing an emergency contract. The procurement officer shall submit a copy of this record at the earliest possible time to the state secretary for placement in any publication established by the state secretary for the advertisement of procurements and shall also submit a copy of such record to the inspector general, for review provided further, that the inspector general shall file a report containing the results of such review in a timely manner with the clerks of the house and senate’.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr, Montigny, Durant, O'Connor and Fattman moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following section:-

378

“SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. There shall be a special commission to analyze the costs of natural gas in the commonwealth, and to make recommendations for measures to contain and reduce those costs for residential and commercial consumers.

The commission shall consist of the chair of the department of public utilities commission, who shall serve as it's chair, the director of the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center, 10 members appointed by the governor, three of whom shall represent natural gas transmission and distribution companies, one of which one shall represent municipalities in the commonwealth, two of whom shall have expertise in energy policy and represent consumers in the commonwealth, one of whom shall represent large employers in the commonwealth, one of whom shall represent small employers in the commonwealth, one member representing the North East Gas Association, and one member representing environmental organizations in the commonwealth, and one member appointed by the attorney general of the commonwealth with expertise in energy policy. Administrative support for the operations of the commission shall be provided by the department of public utilities.

Said commission shall evaluate all of the factors contributing to the cost of natural gas for residential and commercial consumers in the commonwealth, and any and all options for reducing such costs in the short and long terms, together with the impacts of such options on efforts to reduce carbon emissions pursuant to current statutory and regulatory obligations, and the impacts of such options on employment levels and the economy of the commonwealth, provided that such commission shall conduct not less than three public hearings which shall accommodate remote electronic participation, provided further that the commission shall file a report detailing its findings, together with any recommendations, with the clerks of the House and Senate, and the Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities, and Energy not later than December 31, 2025, provided further that the commission may file an interim report prior to such date.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr, Durant, Moore, Eldridge and Keenan moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 4510-0790, by striking out the figure:- “\$500,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$1,000,000”.

393



The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Tarr and Durant moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following section:-

396

“SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. Sections 131 and 226 of Chapter 139 of the Acts of 2012 are hereby repealed.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr, Durant, O'Connor and Fattman moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following section:-

397

“SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the division of insurance shall develop a 3-year pilot program to permit at least 1 but no more than 6 small business group purchasing cooperatives, as defined in section 1 of chapter 176J of the General Laws, to be considered a large employer for the purposes of accessing affordable health insurance coverage options. The total number of covered lives for all approved group purchasing cooperatives, in the aggregate, participating in this pilot program shall not exceed 85,000 covered lives. The division shall develop guidelines that shall include but not be limited to: (i) ways to reduce premiums for members of small business group purchasing cooperatives and their employees; (ii) any waiver of statutory or regulatory requirements to effectuate the pilot program; and (iii) requirements for small business group purchasing cooperative participatory wellness programming. The pilot program shall be implemented no later than 1 year from the effective date of this act. Not later than 6 months after the conclusion of the pilot program, the division of insurance shall issue a report including but not limited to the following information: (i) the number of persons covered under this option for each year of the pilot program; (ii) the availability of coverage offered over the span of the pilot program; (iii) an analysis of impact that the pilot program has on the affordability of health coverage for the participating members and their employees and whether there is any demonstrable impact on the merged market; and (iv) recommendations regarding making the pilot program permanent.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Tarr moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following section:-

401

“SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. Notwithstanding the provisions of any law or regulation to the contrary, in order to achieve cost savings, improve timeliness, and minimize fraud, MassHealth shall obtain employment and income information from a third-party commercial consumer reporting agency, in accordance with the federal ‘Fair Credit Reporting Act,’ 15 U.S.C. s.1681 et seq., for the purpose of obtaining real-time employment and income information to assist with Medicaid eligibility determinations and redeterminations in adherence to state and federal eligibility requirements and to support the agency’s objectives.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr, Fattman and Durant, Mrs. Dooner and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7061-0008, by striking out the figure “\$7,096,864,553” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$7,122,275,753”; and

601

In section 3 by striking out the figure “\$150” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$175”.

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr, Fattman and Durant and Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended, in section 2, in item 7035-0006, by adding the following words:- “and the clerks of the house and senate”; and by striking out the figure:- “\$53,717,772” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$57,169,862”.

603

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr, Fattman, Durant and O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following section:-

605

“SECTION\_. The Foundation Budget Review Commission prescribed by Ch. 70, s.4 of the General Laws shall convene not later than January 2, 2026, provided that, in addition to the review of the items identified in said section, the commission shall also consider the challenges presented for school districts with declining enrollment, the increased costs associated with social-emotional learning and mental health, the costs associated with special education, and the methodology employed to calculate required local contribution by municipalities, provided further that, in establishing the scope of its operations, the commission shall conduct no less than 3 public hearings in geographically diverse locations in the commonwealth, which shall accommodate remote electronic participation. The commission shall file a final report, including legislative recommendations, no later than September 30, 2026, with the clerks of the House and Senate, the House and Senate Committees on Ways and Means, the Joint Committee on Education, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, and the Executive Office of Education provided that the commission may file interim reports from time to time in the same manner.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr, Fattman and Durant, Mrs. Dooner and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following section:-

613

“SECTION \_\_\_. The department of elementary and secondary education, in consultation with at least 1 public institution of higher education, shall study and report on the delivery of special education and services for students with disabilities pursuant to chapter 71B of the General Laws and all applicable federal laws, including, but not limited to, the Individuals with Disabilities Educational Act of 1990 and section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The report shall include: (i) best practices and national standards for the delivery of education and services for students with disabilities; (ii) social and societal factors that impact students diagnosed with a disability pursuant to section 3 of said chapter 71B; and (iii) a comprehensive evaluation of existing and potential models for providing education and services for students with disabilities in-district and out-of-district settings and the associated costs and benefits including, but not limited to, personnel, transportation, housing, specialized services and supports and assistive technologies. The department shall submit a report with recommendations, including any legislative or regulatory changes that may be necessary. The report shall be submitted to the clerks of the house of representatives and the senate, the joint committee on education and the house and senate committees on ways and means not later than May 1, 2026.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr, Durant, O'Connor and Montigny moved that the proposed new text be amended by inserting after section 85 the following section:-

718

“SECTION 85A. Not later than March 1, 2026, the department of early education and care shall file a report with the clerks of the senate and house of representatives, the senate and house committees on ways and means and the joint committee on education detailing the feasibility of expanding background record checks of candidates for licensure, employment or presence in programs licensed, approved or funded by the department of early education and care. The report shall include, but not be limited to: (i) information on international databases that include criminal history records and the ability of the department to access said databases; (ii) strategies for ensuring background checks are conducted with all reasonably available information; (iii) best practices for conducting provider background checks in other states; and (iv) any additional information pertaining to improving the process for conducting background checks for early education programs in the commonwealth.”

The amendment was adopted.

Messrs. Tarr and Durant and Mrs. Dooner moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following section:-

793

“SECTION \_\_. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the office of the state auditor shall conduct an annual audit of the department of transitional assistance. The scope of the audit shall include a review of the following information from the previous fiscal year: the processes and internal controls that the department uses to verify and issue benefits to eligible recipients; how many individuals currently hold EBT cards; how many of those with cards are actively receiving benefits; the total amount of benefits that have been utilized out-of-state; how frequently benefits are used out-of-state; a list of locations where benefits are being spent out of state; and a breakdown of the demographic information of those receiving benefits.

The office of the state auditor shall submit an annual report with its findings no later than January 1st each year, including any recommendations for how the department of transitional assistance can improve its processes to help detect and reduce potential recipient and retailer fraud, waste, or abuse, including improper use of benefits out-of-state. Additionally, the report shall examine factors that may be driving increased enrollment for benefits, and what projected fiscal and operational challenges the department of transitional assistance may face as a result.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr and Durant, Mrs. Dooner and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following sections:-

800

“SECTION 1. Section 8 of Chapter 50 of the Acts of 2023 is hereby amended by striking therein the term ‘8.5 percent’ and replacing it therein with the following:- ‘6.84 percent’.

SECTION 2. Section 8 of Chapter 50 of the Acts of 2023 is hereby amended by striking therein the term ‘8.5 percent’ and replacing it therein with the following:- ‘5.18 percent’.

SECTION 3. Section 8 of Chapter 50 of the Acts of 2023 is hereby amended by striking therein the term ‘8.5 percent’ and replacing it therein with the following:- ‘5 percent’.

SECTION 4. Section 1 shall take effect for the fiscal year immediately following the passage of this act.

SECTION 5. Section 2 shall take effect for the fiscal year one year after the passage of this act.

SECTION 6. Section 3 shall take effect for the fiscal year two years after the passage of this act.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Messrs. Tarr and Durant, Mrs. Dooner and Mr. O'Connor moved that the proposed new text be amended by adding the following section:-

817

“SECTION \_\_. The Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority shall develop a comprehensive plan which outlines the status of the state of repair of all of its systems, assets, and equipment, together with the necessary steps to ensure a state of good repair, safety and compliance will all applicable federal and state safety standards, protocols, laws rules and regulations, and efficient operation, and, to the maximum feasible extent, financial self - sufficiency from own source revenue and other resources not attributable to state taxpayers beyond current levels.

Said plan, together with any recommendations for regulatory or legislative actions necessary to achieve its goals, shall be filed initially with the clerks of the House and Senate not later than 12 months following the passage of this act, and updated annually thereafter not later than March 31 of each year, for a period of five years, unless such requirement is otherwise extended, modified, or terminated.”

The amendment was *rejected*.

Mr. Rodrigues moved that the proposed new text be amended in section 2, in item 0321-1510, by striking out the figure “\$210,292,128” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$213,827,979”;

In said section 2, in item 0640-0300, by striking out the figure “\$26,045,152” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$26,245,152”;

In said section 2, in item 1410-0010, by striking out the figure “\$12,435,036” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$12,815,036”;

In said section 2, in item 1410-0012, by striking out the figure “\$9,678,473” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$10,278,473”;

In said section 2, in item 1410-1616, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$30,000 shall be expended to the Global War on Terrorism Monument Committee in the city of Attleboro to assist with the creation of a historical tribute of remembrance, respect and gratitude for all those who have served in the Global War on Terrorism”;

In said section 2, in said item 1410-1616, by striking out the figure \$250,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$340,000”;

In said section 2, in item 1599-0026, by striking out the figure “\$10,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$10,885,000”;

In said section 2, in item 2000-0100, by striking out the figure “\$18,847,510” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$19,077,510”;

In said section 2, in item 2200-0107, by striking out the figure “\$488,748” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$1,138,748”;

In said section 2, in item 2300-0101, by striking out the figure “\$5,293,523” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$5,343,523”;

In said section 2, in said item 2330-0100, by striking out the figure “\$9,639,804” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$10,154,804”;

In said section 2, in item 2511-0105, by striking out the figure “\$75,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$100,000”;

In said section 2, in said item 2511-0105, by striking out the figure “\$42,075,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$42,100,000”;

In said section 2, in item 2511-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended to the Quabbin Food Connector, Inc. in the town of Orange”;

In said section 2, in said item 2511-0107, by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$1,740,000”;

In said section 2, in item 2810-0100, by striking out the figure “\$112,563,141” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$113,795,049”;

In said section 2, in item 2810-0122, by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$825,000”;

In said section 2, in item 4000-0005, by striking out the figure “\$12,600,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$13,150,000”;

In said section 2, in item 4000-0007, by striking out the words “provided, that not later than February 13, 2026, the executive office of health and human services shall submit a report to the house and senate committees on ways and means on: (i) the number of youths served through this item; (ii) the types of services received by participating youths; (iii) the number of youths who transition into stabilized housing and the zip code of the stabilized housing; (iv) the number of youths who remain in stabilized housing after 90 days, when applicable; (v) other quantifiable data related to client outcomes as determined by the executive office; (vi) the number of youths turned away from the program; and (vii) the amount of funding awarded to vendors for the delivery of services and the names of each vendor” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- “provided, that not later than

February 13, 2026, the executive office of health and human services shall submit a report to the house and senate committees on ways and means on: (i) the number of youths served through this item receiving either prevention or rehousing services, including total statewide numbers and numbers by region; (ii) the types of services received by participating youths; (iii) the number of youths who transition into stabilized housing after experiencing homelessness; (iv) the number of youths who do not enter homelessness after receiving prevention support; (v) the number of youths who do not return to homelessness after being housed; (vi) other quantifiable data related to client outcomes as determined by the executive office; and (vii) the amount of funding awarded to vendors for the delivery of services and the names of each vendor”;

In said section 2, in item 4000-0020, by striking out the figure “\$1,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$1,125,000”;

In said section 2, in item 4000-0300, by inserting after the word “Pain”, the first time it appears, the following words:- “, which shall be administered by the Massachusetts Behavioral Health Partnership.”;

In said section 2, in said item 4000-0300, by striking out the figure “\$158,090,882” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$158,690,882”;

In said section 2, in item 4000-0700, by striking out the words “provided further, that not later than December 5, 2025, \$1,000,000 shall be equally distributed to the teaching community health centers with family medicine residency programs in the cities of Greenfield, Worcester and Lawrence and in the South Boston section of the city of Boston” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- “provided further, that not later than December 5, 2025, \$1,000,000 shall be equally distributed to the teaching community health centers with family medicine residency programs in the cities of Worcester and Lawrence and in the South Boston section of the city of Boston and to the family medicine residency program operated at Baystate Franklin Medical Center in the city of Greenfield”;

In said section 2, in item 4400-1004, by adding the following words:- “, prior appropriation continued”;

In said section 2, in item 4510-0110, by striking out the words “; provided, that not less than \$250,000 shall be expended for a statewide program of technical assistance to community health centers to be provided by a state primary care association qualified under section 330A(f)(2) of the Public Health Service Act, 42 U.S.C. 254c(f)(2)” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- “; provided, that not less than \$250,000 shall be expended for a statewide program of technical assistance to community health centers to be provided by a state primary care association qualified under section 42 U.S.C. 254b(l)”;

In said section 2, in said item 4510-0110, by striking out the figure “\$5,335,599” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$5,650,599”;

In said section 2, in item 4512-0200, by inserting after the word “counselor” the following words:- “and recovery coach”;

In said section 2, in item 4512-0205, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$45,000 shall be expended in equal amounts to the Canton Alliance Against Substance Abuse in the town of Canton, the Sharon Substance Prevention and Resource Coalition in the town of Sharon and the Norton Opioid Prevention and Education Collaborative in the town of Norton”;

In said section 2, in said item 4512-0205 by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$1,505,000”;

In said section 2, in item 4513-1112, by striking out the figure “\$12,557,534” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$13,564,310”;

In said section 2, in item 4516-1039, by inserting after the word “expend” the following words:- “, to support the operations of the Bureau of Health Care Safety and Quality and the Bureau of Health Professions Licensure within the department of public health,”; and



In said section 2, in item 4590-0250, by striking out the words “; provided further, that not less then \$500,000 shall be expended for behavioral health and mental health supports for nonpublic schools including, but not limited to mental health counselors”;

In said section 2, in item 4590-0250, by striking out the figure “\$22,623,088” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$22,623,088”;

In said section 2, in item 4590-1503, by striking out the figure “\$13,853,103” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$14,698,103”;

In said section 2, in item 4590-1507, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$350,000 shall be expended to the Team Hoyt Community YMCA”; and by striking out the figure “\$7,200,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$10,035,000”;

In said section 2, in item 5046-0000, by striking out the figure “\$689,980,438” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$693,855,438”;

In said section 2, in item 7002-0010, by striking out the figure “\$6,358,084” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$7,453,084”;

In said section 2, in item 7002-1091, by striking out the figure “\$8,985,600” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$9,235,600”;

In said section 2, in item 7004-0099, by striking out the figure “\$15,573,388” and inserting in place thereof the following figure “\$15,873,388”;

In said section 2, in item 7004-0107, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to the Center for Human Development, Incorporated for a grant to the Western Massachusetts Network to End Homelessness to support housing stability and homelessness prevention programs”;

In said section 2, in said item 7004-0107, by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$3,464,000”;

In said section 2, in item 7006-0142, by striking out the figure “\$19,916,561”, both times it appears, and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$20,246,561”;

In said section 2, in item 7007-0952, by striking out the figure “\$4,700,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$5,025,000”;

In said section 2, in item 7008-0900, by striking out the figure “\$283,203” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$613,203”;

In said section 2, in item 7008-1116, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$30,000 shall be expended to the town of Rochester for updates and improvements to the town website; provided further, that not less than \$75,000 shall be expended to the town of Swansea for recreational upgrades at Medeiros farm; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to the Resilience Center Of Franklin County, Inc. for the Rural Network to End Domestic Violence’s 3-member task forces that serve Franklin county; provided further, that not less than \$95,000 shall be expended to the town of Orange for economic and community development; provided further, that not less than \$40,000 shall be expended to the Franklin County Chamber of Commerce, Inc. to support local businesses and non-profit organizations; provided further, that not less than \$40,000 shall be expended to the Greater Northampton Chamber Of Commerce Inc. to support local businesses and non-profit organizations; provided further, that not less than \$40,000 shall be expended to the Amherst Area Chamber of Commerce to support local businesses and non-profit organizations; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to the Marilyn Rodman Performing Arts Center, Inc. in the town of Foxborough for audio and visual upgrades and Americans with Disabilities Act accessibility renovations to support it arts programming; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to the Mass Arts Center in the town of Mansfield to support its performing arts programming; provided further, that not less than \$30,000 shall be expended to the Newell-Blais VFW Post 443 in the city known as the town of North Attleborough for capital

improvements to the building and parking lot to support programs and activities open to the public; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to the town of Mansfield for planning and implementation of Mansfield's 250th anniversary celebration; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended to Illuminate Creative and Theatrical Arts Company, Inc. for capital improvements and operations relative to the revitalization of the Union Theatre in the city of Attleboro; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended to the Hockomock area YMCA for the construction of an inclusive Americans with Disabilities Act compliant splash park and additional recreation opportunities at the YMCA in the city known as the town of North Attleborough; provided further, that not less than \$30,000 shall be expended to the town of Foxborough for establishing a storefront facade and signage improvement grant program; provided further, that not less than \$60,000 shall be expended to the town of Hopkinton for safety and accessibility improvements at the public library; provided further, that not less than \$30,000 shall be expended to the MetroWest Nonprofit Network, Inc. for a nonprofit management certificate program; provided further, that not less than \$10,000 shall be expended for the South Attleboro Lions Club, Inc. for wheelchair ramp parts to assist veterans and others in need";

In said section 2, in said item 7008-1116, by striking out the figure "\$100,000" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$10,472,000";

In said section 2, in item 7010-0005, by striking out the figure "\$13,421,738" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$13,721,738";

In said section 2, in item 7010-1192, by adding the following words:- "; provided further, that not less than \$500,000 shall be expended for behavioral health and mental health supports for nonpublic schools including, but not limited to, mental health counselors; provided further, that not less than \$200,000 shall be expended to Medway public schools for mental health programs; provided further, that not less than \$700,000 shall be expended to communities in the Metrowest region, including the city of Framingham and the towns of Ashland, Holliston, Hopkinton, Medway and Natick to address mental health needs in schools";

In said section 2, in said item 7010-1192, by striking out the figure "\$100,000" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$7,255,000";

In said section 2, in item 7061-9010, by striking out the figure "2025" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "2026";

In said section 2, in item 7066-0000, by inserting after the words "full-time" the following word:- "faculty";

In said section 2, in item 7070-0065, by striking out the figure "\$175,188,311" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$175,788,311";

In said section 2, in item 7100-0701, by adding the following words:- ", prior appropriation continued";

In said section 2, in item 7503-0100, by adding the following words:- "; provided, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for the Joseph A. Marshall Veterans Center at Bristol community college";

In said section 2, in said item 7503-0100, by striking out the figure "\$33,194,786" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$33,244,786";

In said section 2, in item 8000-0313, by adding the following words:- "; provided further, that not less than \$130,000 shall be expended to the Freetown police department to purchase body-worn cameras; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended to conduct a feasibility study for a public safety building in the town of Somerset; provided further, that not less than \$10,000 shall be expended to the Attleboro Vincentian Immersion Reentry Project administered by the Society of St. Vincent de Paul District Council of Attleboro in the city of Attleboro to serve incarcerated and formerly incarcerated

individuals throughout Bristol county; provided further, that not less than \$15,000 shall be expended to Sisters@Heart, Inc. for the purchase, installation and maintenance of publicly accessible Automatic External Defibrillators in the towns of Mansfield and Foxborough and for the purchase of training materials to support the education of the proper use of Automatic External Defibrillators”;

In said section 2, in said item 8000-0313, by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$1,714,000”;

In said section 2, in item 8324-0050, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$130,000 shall be expended to the Westport fire department for the purchase of new cardiac monitors; provided further, than not less than \$30,000 shall be expended to the Canton fire department for supplies and operation of the Canton Blood Transfusion program; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended to Barnstable county for fire training programs and equipment”;

In said section 2, in said item 8324-0050, by striking out the figure “\$100,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$1,150,000”;

In said section 2, in item 9110-0100, by striking out the figure “\$5,971,575” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$6,036,575”;

In said section 2, in item 9110-9002, by adding the following words:- “; provided further, that not less than \$110,000 shall be expended to LifePath, Inc. for grants to support member-led non-profit organizations that provide support services for residents aged 60 and older”;

In said section 2, in said item 9110-9002, by striking out the figure “\$29,522,592” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$29,982,592”;

In said section 2, in item 9700-0000, by striking out the figure “\$11,260,795” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$10,724,567”;

In section 2E, in item 1595-6368, by striking out the figure “\$572,620,163” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$572,720,163”;

In said section 2E, in item 1595-6369, by striking out the figure “\$500,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “\$500,200,000”;

In section 2F, in item 1596-2451, by striking out the words “and to cities, towns, regional vocational or county agricultural school districts, independent vocational schools and collaboratives for certain expenditures for transportation of nonresident pupils to approved vocational-technical programs of any regional or county agricultural school district, city, town, independent school or collaborative under section 8A of chapter 74 of the General Laws; provided, that if the amount appropriated in this item is insufficient to fully fund said section 8A of said chapter 74, initial reimbursements made by the department of elementary and secondary education may be prorated by the department to all eligible cities, towns, regional vocational or county agricultural school districts, independent vocational schools and collaboratives”;

In said section 2F, in item 1596-2501, by inserting after the word “Program”, the first time it appears, the following words:- “established under section 5B of chapter 15A of the General Laws”;

In section 36B, in proposed subsection (g) of proposed section 23D of chapter 119, as inserted by amendment 495, by striking out the figure “(e)” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- “(f)”;

In said section 36B, in proposed subsection (k) of said section 23D of said chapter 119, as so inserted, by striking out the words “subsections (a) to (j)” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- “subsections (b) to (i)”;

In said section 36B, in proposed subsection (l) of said section 23D of said chapter 119, as so inserted, by inserting after the word “regulations” the following words:- “as necessary”;

In proposed section 86A, as so inserted, by inserting after the word “regulations” the following words:- “as necessary”;

By inserting after section 70 the following section:-

“SECTION 70A. Item 7010-1192 of section 2 of chapter 140 of the acts of 2024 is hereby amended by inserting after the word ‘Boston’, the third time it appears, the following words:- and such funds shall be made available until June 30, 2026.”; and

By inserting after section 88 the following section:-

SECTION 88A. Section 24 shall take effect on August 1, 2025.

After remarks, the amendment was adopted.

The Ways and Means amendment, as amended, was then adopted.

The bill, as amended, was then ordered to a third reading and read a third time.

*Suspension of Senate Rule 38A.*

Mr. Feeney moved that Senate Rule 38A be suspended to allow the Senate to meet beyond the hour of 8:00 P.M.; and the same Senator requested unanimous consent that the rules be suspended without a call of the yeas and nays. There being no objection, the motion was considered forthwith, and it was adopted.

Suspension of  
Senate Rule 38A.

*Orders of the Day.*

The Orders of the Day were further considered as follows:

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. 4001),-- was further considered.

General  
appropriations bill.

The President in the Chair, after remarks, the question on passing the bill to be engrossed was determined by a call of the yeas and nays, at nineteen minutes past eight o'clock P.M., on motion of Mr. Rodrigues, as follows, to wit (yeas 38 — nays 2) **[Yeas and Nays No. 48]:**

**YEAS.**

Barrett, Michael J.  
Brady, Michael D.  
Brownsberger, William N.  
Collins, Nick  
Comerford, Joanne M.  
Creem, Cynthia Stone  
Crighton, Brendan P.  
Cronin, John J.  
Cyr, Julian  
DiDomenico, Sal N.  
Driscoll, Jr., William J.  
Durant, Peter J.  
Edwards, Lydia  
Eldridge, James B.  
Feeney, Paul R.  
Fernandes, Dylan A.  
Finegold, Barry R.  
Friedman, Cindy F.  
Gómez, Adam

Jehlen, Patricia D.  
Keenan, John F.  
Kennedy, Edward J.  
Kennedy, Robyn K.  
Lewis, Jason M.  
Lovely, Joan B.  
Mark, Paul W.  
Miranda, Liz  
Montigny, Mark C.  
Moore, Michael O.  
O'Connor, Patrick M.  
Oliveira, Jacob R.  
Payano, Pavel  
Rausch, Rebecca L.  
Rodrigues, Michael J.  
Rush, Michael F.  
Spilka, Karen E.  
Tarr, Bruce E.  
Velis, John C. — **38.**

**NAYS.**

Dooner, Kelly A.

Fattman, Ryan C. — **2.**

The yeas and nays having been completed at twenty-three minutes past eight o'clock P.M., the bill was passed to be engrossed, in concurrence, with the amendments [For text of Senate amendment, printed as amended, see Senate, No. 2525].

Sent to the House for concurrence in the amendment.

*Order Adopted.*

On motion of Ms. Lovely,--

Ordered, that when the Senate adjourns today, it adjourn to meet again on Tuesday next at eleven o'clock A.M.

Time of meeting.

*Adjournment in Memory of  
Yaron Lischinsky and Sarah Lynn Milgrim.*

The Senator from Middlesex and Norfolk, Ms. Spilka and the Senator from Norfolk and Middlesex, Ms. Creem moved that when the Senate adjourns today, it does so in memory of Yaron Lischinsky and Sarah Lynn Milgrim.

Yaron and Sarah, employees of the Israeli Embassy in Washington D.C., were shot and killed last night in an act of antisemitic terrorism outside the Capital Jewish Museum, where the American Jewish Committee was hosting an event.

Sarah, 26, hailed from Kansas and was passionate about peacebuilding and environmental advocacy. Yaron, 30, was an Israeli citizen who was dedicated to interfaith dialogue and international cooperation.

Yaron recently purchased an engagement ring and planned to propose to Sarah during a visit to Jerusalem next week.

As we mourn Yaron and Sarah, we must also grapple with the ongoing threat of hate-fueled violence and the fear it has engendered in communities across Massachusetts, including the Jewish community as it has faced a recent surge in antisemitism.

This body can be proud of the support it has shown for all Massachusetts residents confronting hatred and discrimination.

In this budget, we approved additional funding for security personnel at non-profits that are at risk of hate crimes, including synagogues, churches, mosques, and schools and community centers affiliated with a wide variety of faiths and cultures.

We also approved funding to train mental health professionals to provide treatment to victims of hate and bias.

And in last year's budget, we established a special commission, which is delving into trends and data related to incidents of antisemitism in Massachusetts and will recommend strategies and programs for combatting antisemitism.

As we recess, let us honor the lives of Yaron Lischinsky and Sarah Lynn Milgrim by renewing our commitment to opposing antisemitism and hatred in all its forms.

May their memory be a blessing.

*Adjournment in Memory of Leslie A. Feeney.*

The Senator from Norfolk and Suffolk, Mr. Rush, and the Senator from Bristol and Norfolk, Mr. Feeney, moved that when the Senate adjourns today, it does so in memory of Leslie A. Feeney.



Leslie A. Feeney of Norwood Massachusetts passed away unexpectedly on March 5, 2025 at the age of 65. Born in Boston in 1959, Leslie was the daughter of the late Gerald Murley and Joyce McNeff Murley.

A resident of Roslindale, Leslie was part of the first graduating class at West Roxbury High School in 1977.

While raising her family from a young age, Leslie worked at various jobs to help make ends meet, including working as a waitress at Doyle's Cafe in Jamaica Plain, as well as a short stint in the medical records department at the Arbour Hospital, also in Jamaica Plain.

Shortly after graduation from High School, my Mom gave birth to her first child, an incredibly adorable and strikingly handsome, yet premature son, Paul. As a young single mom, she dedicated everything she had to providing a safe, nurturing, and loving life for her child.

With the support of her own parents, siblings, friends, and neighbors and families throughout our little Roslindale neighborhood, she did just that.

It wasn't long before Leslie was introduced by friends to Francis Feeney and the first chapter of a love story was written. Ma made it clear that dating her was truly a package deal with her young son, and luckily Fran didn't waver for a second.

Leslie and Franny married in 1984 and began a journey that was uniquely theirs, and rooted in commitment to each other, loyalty to their relationship, and love for their families.

In 1989, shortly after buying their first home in Auburn Massachusetts, Mom had her second son, my Brother Kevin in May of that year and her family, for the time-being at least, was complete. Kevin was special to her and from that day until her last breath she gave everything she had to her two boys.

Leslie Feeney, Ma, was known to all as a caring, compassionate, and loving person whose emotional intelligence was off the charts. Despite facing challenges in her own life, she was a people person who always put the feelings of others first.

She lived her life guided by an unrelenting care for those around her. Whether you were family and had a lifetime of history with her, or had only just met her, Ma's goal was to just make you feel o.k. Her empathy was unmatched, and her kindness was contagious.

If you were up against it, you wanted to talk to Leslie. If you were grieving, talk to Leslie. If you needed someone to listen to you, talk to Leslie. She would always listen and was always available when you needed her.

Ma would spend hours on the phone, checking in on her family, friends and loved ones making sure that everyone was alright, sharing stories and making everyone feel seen, heard and cared for. She would consistently report to my brother and I who in the family need a prayer. Always ending the update with "just say a prayer would ya?".

Since joining with me on the day I raised my hand in the Senate chamber for the first time, she also had a particular affinity for the members of the Massachusetts Senate. A prolific Facebook researcher, Ma would often tell me about what my colleagues were up to and working on before I even knew. Usually, the very first comment on my Senate social media posts, within seconds of posting, would be my mom with her trademark "Good job Paul". Then she would follow up with a call or a text to ask me what I did and who I met and who was in the picture, and did I make sure I ate and why wasn't I wearing a winter jacket.

The thing is Leslie, my mom, was a lover of stories, not of books, but stories. Stories of people's lives, those familiar to her, and those who she never met. She was so good in connecting with people at a deep level and letting them feel heard.

Though Leslie was already full of love for her family and friends, the last 5 years of her life, when she took on the role of Nana, Ma showed the most pure, unconditional, and complete love that exists this side of Heaven.

Her grandsons, Conor Francis and Declan James, were everything to Ma. They were truly the lights of her life, and her reason to smile on tough days, and laugh on good days. She lived for her Facetime calls with her grandsons and cherished their time together.

She will be remembered by all of us as a Woman who persisted through adversity. Driven by love, compassion, empathy, loyalty, kindness, gentleness, and humor.

Leslie is survived by her Husband, Francis Feeney of Norwood, her sons, Paul and his wife Laura of Foxborough, Kevin, and his Wife Amanda, and Grandchildren Conor and Declan of Haverhill, her sister Jill Silvestro and her husband Joseph of Whitman, Jerilyn Porter of Whitman, Jeffrey Murley of Norwood, and Wendy Schmidt and her Husband Michael of Dedham.

She leaves behind many nieces and nephews, as well as grand-nieces and nephews that cherished their aunt Leslie.

She will be deeply missed. To paraphrase Maya Angelou, as the days go by and the years pass, we may forget some of which she said, or perhaps what she did, but those that knew my Mom, will never forget that way that she made us feel.

I ask that the Senate, the members of which have shown me and my family unwavering support and friendship, join me in a moment of silence in memory of Leslie Ann Feeney.

Accordingly, as a mark of respect to the memory of Yaron Lischinsky, Sarah Lynn Milgrim and Leslie A. Feeney, at twenty-five minutes past eight o'clock P.M., on motion of Ms. Kennedy, the Senate adjourned to meet again on Tuesday next at eleven o'clock A.M.