

## Outside Sections

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<b>Section 3 Local Aid Distribution .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Sections 4 - 102 .....</b>	<b>19</b>
Section 4 - Speed Camera Enforcement 1.....	19
Section 5 - Driver's License Non-Renewals 1 .....	19
Section 6 - Lottery Commission Game Offerings .....	19
Section 7 - Audit Frequency .....	20
Section 8 - Property Assessed Clean Energy Savings-to-Investment Ratio Update .....	20
Section 9 - Workforce Investment Trust Fund and Economic Development Trust Fund Reforms 1.....	20
Section 10 - Workforce Investment Trust Fund and Economic Development Trust Fund Reforms 2.....	21
Section 11 - Workforce Investment Trust Fund and Economic Development Trust Fund Reforms 3.....	21
Section 12 - Workforce Investment Trust Fund and Economic Development Trust Fund Reforms 4.....	21
Section 13 - Workforce Investment Trust Fund and Economic Development Trust Fund Reforms 5.....	22
Section 14 - Workforce Investment Trust Fund and Economic Development Trust Fund Reforms 6.....	22
Section 15 - De-Regulation of Level 3 Chargers .....	22
Section 16 - Dedicated Transportation Income Surtax Revenue.....	22
Section 17 - Capital Gains Threshold 1 .....	23
Section 18 - Excess Capital Gains Rolling Average .....	23
Section 19 - Stabilization Fund and Long-Term Liability Financing Task Force and Budget Stress Test.....	23
Section 20 - Owner's Representative 1 .....	24
Section 21 - Owner's Representative 2 .....	24
Section 22 - Triennial Pension Funding Schedule.....	25
Section 23 - 40A Electronic Notifications 1.....	25
Section 24 - 40A Electronic Notifications 2.....	25
Section 25 - 40A Electronic Notifications 3.....	26
Section 26 - 40A Electronic Notifications 4.....	26
Section 27 - DNA Exception to Statute of Limitations 1.....	26
Section 28 - Driver's License Non-Renewals 2 .....	27

Section 29 - Speed Camera Enforcement 2 .....	27
Section 30 - Speed Camera Enforcement 3 .....	27
Section 31 - Driver's License Non-Renewals 3 .....	28
Section 32 - Driver's License Non-Renewals 4 .....	28
Section 33 - Driver's License Non-Renewals 5 .....	28
Section 34 - Driver's License Non-Renewals 6 .....	28
Section 35 - Driver's License Non-Renewals 7 .....	29
Section 36 - Driver's License Non-Renewals 8 .....	29
Section 37 - Driver's License Non-Renewals 9 .....	29
Section 38 - Driver's License Non-Renewals 10 .....	29
Section 39 - Driver's License Non-Renewals 11 .....	30
Section 40 - Driver's License Non-Renewals 12 .....	30
Section 41 - Driver's License Non-Renewals 13 .....	30
Section 42 - Driver's License Non-Renewals 14 .....	31
Section 43 - Driver's License Non-Renewals 15 .....	31
Section 44 - Driver's License Non-Renewals 16 .....	33
Section 45 - Driver's License Non-Renewals 17 .....	33
Section 46 - Speed Camera Enforcement 4 .....	33
Section 47 - Simplified Subscription Cancellations .....	39
Section 48 - Bureau of Substance Addiction Services Payer of Last Resort .....	40
Section 49 - Emergency Aid to the Elderly Disabled and Children Asset Limit .....	40
Section 50 - Direct Negotiations for Rebates on Certain Drugs and Non-Drug Products .....	41
Section 51 - MassHealth Overpayment Recovery .....	41
Section 52 - Alternative Service of Notice .....	41
Section 53 - Streamlined Disposition of Public Housing .....	42
Section 54 - Alcohol Modernization 1 .....	42
Section 55 - Alcohol Modernization 2 .....	42
Section 56 - Alcohol Modernization 3 .....	42
Section 57 - Alcohol Modernization 4 .....	43
Section 58 - Alcohol Modernization 5 .....	43
Section 59 - Alcohol Modernization 6 .....	43
Section 60 - Alcohol Modernization 7 .....	43
Section 61 - Alcohol Modernization 8 .....	43
Section 62 - Alcohol Modernization 9 .....	44
Section 63 - Youth Employment Permitting .....	44

Section 64 - Owner's Representative 3 .....	47
Section 65 - Owner's Representative 4 .....	47
Section 66 - Workforce Productivity Fund 1 .....	48
Section 67 - Workforce Productivity Fund 2 .....	48
Section 68 - Driver's License Non-renewals 18 .....	49
Section 69 - DNA Exception to Statute of Limitations 2 .....	49
Section 70 - Employment Bridge Payment 1 .....	49
Section 71 - Employment Bridge Payment 2 .....	50
Section 72 - Alternative Housing Voucher Program .....	50
Section 73 - Extending the Connector Care Expansion Pilot 1 .....	51
Section 74 - Extending the Connector Care Expansion Pilot 2 .....	51
Section 75 - Transfers Between Health Funds Clarification .....	51
Section 76 - Extending the Connector Care Expansion Pilot 3 .....	51
Section 77 - Progressive Design Build Pilot Program .....	52
Section 78 - MassHealth and Health Safety Net Dental Services .....	54
Section 79 - Health Safety Net Trust Fund Transfer to Department of Public Health for HIV Drug Assistance Program 1 .....	54
Section 80 - Health Safety Net Trust Fund Transfer to Department of Public Health for HIV Drug Assistance Program 2 .....	55
Section 81 - Transfers Between Health Funds .....	55
Section 82 - Expanded Medicare Savings Program Transfer .....	56
Section 83 - Health Safety Net Administration .....	56
Section 84 - Initial Gross Payments to Qualifying Acute Care Hospitals .....	56
Section 85 - Inspector General's Health Care Audits .....	57
Section 86 - Nursing Facility Base Year .....	57
Section 87 - Fiscal Year 2027 Regional Transit Authority Funding Formula .....	57
Section 88 - Gaming Fund Splits .....	58
Section 89 - Excess Capital Gains Distribution .....	58
Section 90 - Massachusetts Life Sciences Center .....	58
Section 91 - Pension Cost of Living Adjustment .....	59
Section 92 - Interest Earnings .....	59
Section 93 - Capital Gains Threshold 2 .....	60
Section 94 - Abandoned Property Transfers .....	60
Section 95 - Workforce Productivity Fund 3 .....	60
Section 96 - Speed Camera Enforcement 5 .....	60

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Section 97 - Driver's License Non-Renewals 19 .....	61
Section 98 - Driver's License Non-Renewals 20 .....	61
Section 99 - Driver's License Non-Renewals and Youth Employment Permitting Effective Date.....	61
Section 100 - Speed Camera Enforcement Effective Date.....	61
Section 101 - Employment Bridge Payment Effective Date.....	62
Section 102 - Effective Date .....	62

### Section 3 Local Aid Distribution

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Additional local aid information based on the Governor's FY2027 Budget for individual cities and towns is available at <https://www.mass.gov/lists/cherry-sheet-estimates>

#### SECTION 3.

Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027 the distribution of Unrestricted General Government Aid to cities and towns of the balance of the State Lottery and Gaming Fund, as paid from the General Fund in accordance with clause (c) of the second paragraph of section 35 of chapter 10 of the General Laws, and additional funds from the General Fund and the Gaming Local Aid Fund, shall be \$1,356,109,519 and shall be apportioned to cities and towns in accordance with this section. For fiscal year 2027 the total amounts to be distributed to each city, town, and regional school district, as calculated pursuant to chapter 70 of the General Laws and paid from item 7061-0008 of section 2 and from item 1596-2450 of Section 2F, shall be as set forth in the following lists; provided, that for purposes of calculating preliminary local contributions, municipal revenue growth factors shall be calculated in a manner consistent with calculations made in fiscal year 2026; provided further, that the effort reduction percentage shall be 100 per cent; provided further, that the minimum aid per pupil dollar amount shall be \$75; and provided further, that the total statewide target local contribution shall be 59 per cent. If there is a conflict between the language of said chapter 70 and the distribution listed below, the distribution below shall control. The specified amounts listed below shall be deemed in full satisfaction of the amounts due under said chapter 70. No payments to cities, towns or counties maintaining an agricultural school under this section shall be made after November 30 of the fiscal year until the commissioner of revenue certifies acceptance of the prior fiscal year's annual financial reports submitted under section 43 of chapter 44 of the General Laws. Advance payments shall be made for some or all of periodic local reimbursement or assistance programs to any city, town, regional school district, or agricultural school that demonstrates an emergency cash shortfall, as certified by the commissioner of revenue and approved by the secretary of administration and finance, under guidelines established by the secretary.

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MUNICIPALITY	Chapter 70	Unrestricted General Government Aid
Abington	14,977,203	2,509,945
Acton	0	1,784,787
Acushnet	7,545,822	1,934,564
Adams	12,393	2,987,093
Agawam	27,644,517	4,700,482
Alford	0	17,907
Amesbury	10,104,004	2,482,196
Amherst	6,616,134	10,741,773
Andover	15,741,510	2,279,881
Aquinnah	0	2,983
Arlington	20,705,918	9,679,890
Ashburnham	0	1,014,467
Ashby	0	558,681
Ashfield	93,683	236,875

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MUNICIPALITY	Chapter 70	Unrestricted General Government Aid
Ashland	12,207,528	1,725,429
Athol	0	3,377,943
Attleboro	63,226,636	7,278,956
Auburn	15,916,439	2,185,116
Avon	4,441,131	884,332
Ayer	0	965,901
Barnstable	26,466,227	2,683,818
Barre	0	1,147,518
Becket	76,923	115,871
Bedford	6,849,109	1,464,653
Belchertown	14,884,130	2,170,954
Bellingham	10,967,237	2,165,007
Belmont	13,275,169	2,880,911
Berkley	4,363,773	776,326
Berlin	0	257,240
Bernardston	0	371,096
Beverly	16,009,070	7,451,043
Billerica	21,705,709	7,429,751
Blackstone	162,423	1,746,411
Blandford	77,586	162,010
Bolton	3,547	251,914
Boston	249,507,686	241,732,654
Bourne	6,011,650	1,870,390
Boxborough	32,909	321,849
Boxford	2,099,523	620,249
Boylston	54,141	437,041
Braintree	22,332,300	7,301,168
Brewster	1,513,635	503,786
Bridgewater	190,196	4,647,135
Brimfield	1,809,967	497,454
Brockton	288,026,591	26,715,348
Brookfield	1,984,261	629,977
Brookline	18,296,543	8,100,677
Buckland	7,677	390,681
Burlington	10,764,331	3,341,418
Cambridge	23,219,142	27,410,444
Canton	9,751,900	2,736,130
Carlisle	1,576,599	279,895
Carver	10,946,243	1,863,918
Charlemont	120,531	223,028

MUNICIPALITY	Chapter 70	Unrestricted General Government Aid
Charlton	0	1,848,513
Chatham	0	192,022
Chelmsford	15,838,549	6,475,975
Chelsea	131,350,567	10,479,045
Cheshire	0	783,807
Chester	115,723	229,712
Chesterfield	108,282	176,158
Chicopee	100,770,433	14,692,497
Chilmark	0	4,786
Clarksburg	2,218,961	464,153
Clinton	22,950,682	3,003,537
Cohasset	3,437,735	656,440
Colrain	8,760	368,240
Concord	4,661,880	1,480,196
Conway	662,816	228,030
Cummington	59,811	106,439
Dalton	337,786	1,451,668
Danvers	10,377,125	3,633,999
Dartmouth	11,509,892	3,216,388
Dedham	10,338,013	4,172,415
Deerfield	1,244,269	612,823
Dennis	0	694,871
Devens	308,558	0
Dighton	0	986,585
Douglas	9,271,813	931,119
Dover	1,188,961	245,438
Dracut	28,416,439	4,470,434
Dudley	11,040	2,279,682
Dunstable	0	313,820
Duxbury	7,544,790	1,130,981
East Bridgewater	13,514,719	1,909,846
East Brookfield	221,080	370,038
East Longmeadow	15,846,561	1,846,860
Eastham	571,454	190,091
Easthampton	9,178,517	3,586,316
Easton	11,758,237	2,794,088
Edgartown	1,298,537	84,990
Egremont	0	80,504
Erving	615,841	85,756
Essex	0	312,392

MUNICIPALITY	Chapter 70	Unrestricted General Government Aid
Everett	127,440,573	8,814,844
Fairhaven	10,152,933	2,877,162
Fall River	250,549,046	30,405,609
Falmouth	10,246,964	1,768,901
Fitchburg	92,786,332	10,888,507
Florida	575,862	63,506
Foxborough	10,271,482	1,900,483
Framingham	93,170,282	12,694,066
Franklin	30,815,693	3,152,718
Freetown	16,860	1,211,565
Gardner	33,019,676	5,406,744
Georgetown	6,094,982	914,022
Gill	0	310,350
Gloucester	12,383,141	5,095,849
Goshen	111,470	102,074
Gosnold	0	2,675
Grafton	13,762,553	1,994,985
Granby	4,976,650	1,126,574
Granville	139,520	204,566
Great Barrington	0	968,315
Greenfield	16,870,389	4,050,773
Groton	0	988,358
Groveland	65,470	928,764
Hadley	1,493,171	579,078
Halifax	3,689,533	1,158,222
Hamilton	0	857,236
Hampden	0	877,830
Hancock	469,081	72,038
Hanover	8,266,381	2,702,846
Hanson	40,519	1,633,903
Hardwick	10,500	593,995
Harvard	2,482,816	1,889,546
Harwich	0	549,594
Hatfield	989,421	398,118
Haverhill	96,427,042	12,540,132
Hawley	32,248	55,216
Heath	0	106,754
Hingham	9,700,492	2,013,657
Hinsdale	104,923	284,090
Holbrook	13,156,698	1,882,619

MUNICIPALITY	Chapter 70	Unrestricted General Government Aid
Holden	14,521	2,439,443
Holland	1,065,759	257,530
Holliston	9,765,790	1,975,865
Holyoke	110,598,472	12,958,236
Hopedale	6,510,035	831,994
Hopkinton	11,181,119	1,002,298
Hubbardston	0	574,746
Hudson	14,043,690	2,544,305
Hull	4,230,649	2,703,985
Huntington	436,448	439,735
Ipswich	4,650,196	2,048,126
Kingston	6,131,042	1,224,675
Lakeville	119,449	1,043,980
Lancaster	0	1,219,627
Lanesborough	7,201	440,127
Lawrence	332,192,248	25,052,198
Lee	2,347,710	794,611
Leicester	11,550,067	2,215,372
Lenox	1,495,423	680,089
Leominster	76,157,655	7,302,375
Leverett	429,413	227,746
Lexington	19,838,585	1,955,430
Leyden	0	105,052
Lincoln	1,488,313	868,620
Littleton	5,377,675	906,964
Longmeadow	7,992,761	1,782,609
Lowell	275,966,413	32,137,740
Ludlow	15,184,103	3,897,757
Lunenburg	9,349,335	1,349,272
Lynn	327,335,160	28,567,090
Lynnfield	6,665,740	1,326,983
Malden	70,271,045	16,007,633
Manchester	0	283,746
Mansfield	20,579,572	2,846,055
Marblehead	7,186,354	1,452,940
Marion	1,276,702	287,894
Marlborough	52,279,018	6,945,593
Marshfield	16,399,848	2,764,051
Mashpee	5,318,805	469,431
Mattapoisett	1,125,528	517,127

MUNICIPALITY	Chapter 70	Unrestricted General Government Aid
Maynard	6,078,675	2,004,517
Medfield	7,431,278	1,849,547
Medford	18,890,896	15,476,716
Medway	11,523,702	1,556,641
Melrose	13,578,856	6,543,499
Mendon	38,052	521,412
Merrimac	36,094	1,073,538
Methuen	72,676,678	6,937,373
Middleborough	23,328,455	3,145,759
Middlefield	13,290	67,829
Middleton	1,992,104	698,122
Milford	54,880,533	3,897,162
Millbury	9,379,443	2,259,387
Millis	5,348,941	1,335,851
Millville	73,662	519,718
Milton	13,103,194	4,099,738
Monroe	170,066	23,460
Monson	7,926,304	1,665,554
Montague	0	1,828,582
Monterey	0	58,993
Montgomery	32,160	110,727
Mount Washington	13,818	38,247
Nahant	641,805	482,094
Nantucket	4,960,902	101,094
Natick	14,900,607	4,862,055
Needham	15,131,309	2,227,372
New Ashford	123,072	25,916
New Bedford	271,241,737	29,351,216
New Braintree	0	168,435
New Marlborough	0	74,723
New Salem	0	132,383
Newbury	16,934	660,787
Newburyport	6,341,810	3,254,137
Newton	31,261,134	7,498,179
Norfolk	3,949,279	1,223,590
North Adams	16,796,682	5,660,630
North Andover	13,401,714	2,614,834
North Attleborough	22,561,452	3,670,823
North Brookfield	5,089,041	1,016,688
North Reading	8,236,912	2,265,491

MUNICIPALITY	Chapter 70	Unrestricted General Government Aid
Northampton	8,806,814	5,608,027
Northborough	4,766,133	1,423,223
Northbridge	16,531,803	2,693,282
Northfield	0	460,989
Norton	13,865,782	2,651,880
Norwell	5,705,563	1,367,780
Norwood	18,785,631	5,934,843
Oak Bluffs	2,082,574	92,793
Oakham	0	244,795
Orange	7,087,100	2,062,014
Orleans	503,684	219,165
Otis	0	46,409
Oxford	12,562,938	2,623,626
Palmer	12,259,974	2,558,842
Paxton	0	690,440
Peabody	38,555,751	9,210,298
Pelham	358,213	203,100
Pembroke	14,811,699	2,144,804
Pepperell	0	1,904,336
Peru	91,030	145,717
Petersham	720,253	146,275
Phillipston	0	235,358
Pittsfield	68,855,061	11,016,270
Plainfield	83,822	64,013
Plainville	3,237,923	967,983
Plymouth	30,706,422	4,999,607
Plympton	1,239,922	302,700
Princeton	0	377,776
Provincetown	334,524	176,488
Quincy	48,330,103	24,363,438
Randolph	32,003,795	6,632,066
Raynham	0	1,450,884
Reading	12,609,758	4,136,424
Rehoboth	0	1,330,035
Revere	107,787,523	13,125,137
Richmond	562,818	138,042
Rochester	2,571,132	541,916
Rockland	20,208,898	3,373,015
Rockport	1,765,166	558,308
Rowe	159,845	5,026

MUNICIPALITY	Chapter 70	Unrestricted General Government Aid
Rowley	18,508	689,041
Royalston	0	229,388
Russell	255,579	315,125
Rutland	0	1,180,310
Salem	32,898,737	8,801,719
Salisbury	15,791	806,187
Sandisfield	0	44,214
Sandwich	8,223,276	1,438,113
Saugus	16,391,327	4,681,042
Savoy	534,114	147,839
Scituate	7,436,710	2,566,769
Seekonk	8,428,128	1,570,095
Sharon	11,628,466	1,786,121
Sheffield	17,905	310,844
Shelburne	0	333,673
Sherborn	977,940	276,375
Shirley	0	1,674,032
Shrewsbury	22,924,785	3,554,285
Shutesbury	679,757	216,372
Somerset	11,152,527	1,956,976
Somerville	22,934,482	32,148,394
South Hadley	11,268,224	3,332,366
Southampton	2,778,723	813,004
Southborough	3,566,138	558,065
Southbridge	36,441,720	4,488,794
Southwick	220,059	1,609,468
Spencer	34,709	2,885,921
Springfield	583,158,575	48,302,693
Sterling	0	884,580
Stockbridge	0	127,185
Stoneham	8,079,053	4,741,996
Stoughton	31,688,164	4,085,878
Stow	0	537,130
Sturbridge	5,363,629	988,524
Sudbury	6,380,269	1,786,083
Sunderland	942,431	644,906
Sutton	6,091,356	996,012
Swampscott	5,951,300	1,651,567
Swansea	11,470,813	2,396,448
Taunton	109,617,416	10,731,634

MUNICIPALITY	Chapter 70	Unrestricted General Government Aid
Templeton	11,493	1,779,245
Tewksbury	14,891,147	3,551,229
Tisbury	1,763,499	125,114
Tolland	0	23,583
Topsfield	1,675,237	782,614
Townsend	0	1,676,881
Truro	481,326	38,386
Tyngsborough	8,174,235	1,233,070
Tyringham	72,676	16,200
Upton	39,979	679,316
Uxbridge	10,223,445	1,755,639
Wakefield	9,658,748	4,298,465
Wales	1,212,343	301,372
Walpole	11,071,650	3,251,853
Waltham	26,814,126	12,252,565
Ware	14,833,300	2,202,829
Wareham	16,963,182	2,524,464
Warren	12,223	1,154,390
Warwick	396,734	162,274
Washington	37,233	120,515
Watertown	8,725,066	8,510,768
Wayland	8,150,560	1,153,354
Webster	24,259,540	3,159,147
Wellesley	11,235,961	1,652,885
Wellfleet	334,538	74,579
Wendell	0	222,366
Wenham	0	546,542
West Boylston	3,432,670	1,016,607
West Bridgewater	7,188,748	834,365
West Brookfield	328,719	621,462
West Newbury	13,151	378,062
West Springfield	47,436,677	4,572,896
West Stockbridge	0	124,060
West Tisbury	0	236,997
Westborough	13,146,006	1,478,575
Westfield	46,092,037	8,032,351
Westford	19,315,344	2,711,590
Westhampton	520,848	184,892
Westminster	0	835,258
Weston	5,116,784	477,276

MUNICIPALITY	Chapter 70	Unrestricted General Government Aid
Westport	5,945,702	1,552,327
Westwood	8,009,326	930,864
Weymouth	31,244,333	11,125,628
Whately	361,349	171,233
Whitman	174,351	3,089,641
Wilbraham	0	1,867,380
Williamsburg	883,606	386,292
Williamstown	0	1,218,190
Wilmington	12,812,945	3,172,724
Winchendon	14,486,386	2,146,568
Winchester	11,714,828	1,887,838
Windsor	28,984	132,502
Winthrop	10,598,121	5,378,976
Woburn	15,750,589	7,638,706
Worcester	437,762,216	53,023,726
Worthington	504,417	160,269
Wrentham	4,235,972	1,189,581
Yarmouth	0	1,610,973
<b>Total Municipal Aid</b>	<b>6,649,767,230</b>	<b>1,356,109,519</b>

	Chapter 70
Regional School District	
Acton Boxborough	17,566,746
Amherst Pelham	10,168,361
Ashburnham Westminster	16,426,437
Assabet Valley	11,659,434
Athol Royalston	26,295,064
Ayer Shirley	9,120,383
Berkshire Hills	3,600,318
Berlin Boylston	3,229,646
Blackstone Millville	12,197,233
Blackstone Valley	9,689,572
Blue Hills	7,947,314
Bridgewater Raynham	34,629,615
Bristol County	5,341,524
Bristol Plymouth	14,768,619
Cape Cod	3,632,640
Central Berkshire	10,188,937
Chesterfield Goshen	805,097
Concord Carlisle	3,699,123
Dennis Yarmouth	14,199,435
Dighton Rehoboth	14,195,778
Dover Sherborn	3,026,477
Dudley Charlton	26,066,862
Essex North Shore	9,368,948
Farmington River	782,894
Franklin County	6,248,022
Freetown Lakeville	12,528,864
Frontier	3,088,277
Gateway	6,397,530
Gill Montague	8,135,223
Greater Fall River	24,806,853
Greater Lawrence	42,612,739
Greater Lowell	38,740,488
Greater New Bedford	39,925,494
Groton Dunstable	11,996,603
Hamilton Wenham	4,778,969
Hampden Wilbraham	13,247,755
Hampshire	3,553,842
Hawlemont	675,895
Hoosac Valley	12,635,071
King Philip	8,518,303
Lincoln Sudbury	4,331,342

	Chapter 70
Regional School District	
Manchester Essex	3,594,166
Marthas Vineyard	3,805,563
Masconomet	5,956,478
Mendon Upton	13,395,319
Minuteman	3,188,454
Mohawk Trail	6,427,259
Monomoy	4,738,265
Montachusett	18,872,755
Mount Greylock	5,212,671
Narragansett	13,137,592
Nashoba	10,771,923
Nashoba Valley	5,059,414
Nauset	4,082,929
New Salem Wendell	945,815
Norfolk County	1,551,780
North Middlesex	21,839,054
Northampton Smith	973,221
Northboro Southboro	3,766,166
Northeast Metropolitan	16,719,585
Northern Berkshire	7,141,402
Old Colony	4,354,365
Old Rochester	3,781,446
Pathfinder	7,988,454
Pentucket	14,274,940
Pioneer	4,190,899
Quabbin	17,563,637
Quaboag	10,676,590
Ralph C Mahar	7,293,653
Shawsheen Valley	7,092,348
Silver Lake	10,923,933
Somerset Berkley	7,271,001
South Middlesex	9,981,529
South Shore	6,014,697
Southeastern	26,191,596
Southern Berkshire	2,288,970
Southern Worcester	14,902,363
Southwick Tolland Granville	10,258,046
Spencer East Brookfield	14,419,280
Tantasqua	11,797,849
Tri County	6,174,341
Triton	9,800,860

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	Chapter 70
Regional School District	
Upsilonland	1,093,737
Upper Cape Cod	4,786,960
Wachusett	38,052,138
Whitman Hanson	26,443,071
Whittier	14,231,622

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	Chapter 70	Unrestricted General Government Aid
<b>TOTALS</b>		
Total Regional Aid	953,855,863	
Total Municipal and Regional Aid	7,603,623,093	1,356,109,519

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**Section 4 - Speed Camera Enforcement 1**

SECTION 4. Clause Twenty-sixth of section 7 of chapter 4 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2024 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding the following subclause:-

- (x) photographs and other personal identifying information collected under chapter 90L.

*Summary:*

This section, together with related sections, authorizes the Massachusetts Department of Transportation to establish a speed camera enforcement program to allow DOT and municipalities to enforce posted speed limits through speed cameras in construction zones and school zones, respectively.

**Section 5 - Driver's License Non-Renewals 1**

SECTION 5. Section 18 of chapter 7A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2024 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding the following subsection:-

(d) The department of revenue shall assist the comptroller in collecting, under this section's procedures, overdue motor vehicle excise assessed under chapter 60A, overdue liabilities for parking violations under sections 20A, 20A1/2 and 20E of chapter 90, and overdue abandoned vehicle fines under section 22B of chapter 90. To be collectible under this section's procedures, a taxpayer's overdue motor vehicle excise assessed under chapter 60A, overdue liabilities for parking violations under sections 20A, 20A1/2 and 20E of chapter 90 and overdue abandoned vehicle fines under section 22B of chapter 90 shall exceed a minimum amount and shall have been incurred within a maximum lookback period as established by regulations issued by the commissioner of revenue.

*Summary:*

This section, together with related sections, eliminates the practice of imposing driver's license non-renewals and motor vehicle registration non-renewals for certain unpaid debts and provides for an alternative enforcement mechanism.

**Section 6 - Lottery Commission Game Offerings**

SECTION 6. Subsection (a) of section 25 of chapter 10 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2024 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the word "appropriation", in line 13, the first time it appears, the following words:- ; notwithstanding the foregoing, the commission may enter into contracts or group agreements for lottery games not currently or previously authorized by the commission, resulting in a contractor or licensor to be paid a specified percentage of net or gross revenues of such game and such payments shall not be subject to appropriation.

*Summary:*

This section clarifies that the Massachusetts State Lottery Commission may enter into contracts for lottery games not currently or previously authorized by the Commission.

## **Section 7 - Audit Frequency**

SECTION 7. Section 12 of chapter 11 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2024 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 18, the figure "3" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- 5.

*Summary:*

This section requires that the State Auditor conduct audits of all entities required to be audited every 5 years rather than every 3 years.

## **Section 8 - Property Assessed Clean Energy Savings-to-Investment Ratio Update**

SECTION 8. Subsection (b) of section 3 of chapter 23M of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2024 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out the first sentence and inserting in place thereof the following sentence:- The agency, working in conjunction with the department, shall develop program guidelines governing the terms and conditions under which financing for commercial PACE projects may be made available to the commercial sustainable energy program.

*Summary:*

This section removes a requirement that energy cost savings over the useful life of Property Assessed Clean Energy improvements exceed the costs of the improvements.

## **Section 9 - Workforce Investment Trust Fund and Economic Development Trust Fund Reforms 1**

SECTION 9. Chapter 23N of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out section 17, as appearing in the 2024 Official Edition, and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

Section 17. There shall be established and set up on the books of the commonwealth a Sports Wagering Fund which shall receive revenues collected pursuant to sections 6 and 14. The fund shall not be subject to appropriation. The commission shall be the trustee of the fund and shall transfer monies from the fund as follows:

- (1) 45 per cent to the General Fund;
- (2) 10 per cent to the Workforce Investment Trust Fund established in section 18;
- (3) 7.5 per cent to the Economic Development Trust Fund established in Section 16I of chapter 6A;
- (4) 27.5 per cent to the Gaming Local Aid Fund established in section 63 of chapter 23K;
- (5) 1 per cent to the Youth Development and Achievement Fund established in section 19; and
- (6) 9 per cent to the Public Health Trust Fund established in section 58 of chapter 23K.

*Summary:*

This section, together with related sections, authorizes the Secretary of Economic Development, in consultation with the Secretary of Labor and Workforce Development, to transfer funds from the Workforce Investment Trust Fund to the Economic Development Trust Fund and allows for more flexible use of the Workforce Investment Trust Fund.

## **Section 10 - Workforce Investment Trust Fund and Economic Development Trust Fund Reforms 2**

SECTION 10. Subsection (a) of section 18 of said chapter 23N, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 5, the figure "16" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- 17.

*Summary:*

This section, together with related sections, authorizes the Secretary of Economic Development, in consultation with the Secretary of Labor and Workforce Development, to transfer funds from the Workforce Investment Trust Fund to the Economic Development Trust Fund and allows for more flexible use of the Workforce Investment Trust Fund.

## **Section 11 - Workforce Investment Trust Fund and Economic Development Trust Fund Reforms 3**

SECTION 11. Said section 18 of said chapter 23N, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by striking out subsection (b) and inserting in place thereof the following subsection:-

(b) The fund shall be administered by the secretary of economic development in consultation with the secretary of labor and workforce development. Money in the fund may be (i) expended to support existing workforce development programs administered by state agencies or quasi-public agencies that develop and strengthen workforce opportunities for low-income communities or unemployed or underemployed individuals or vulnerable youth and young adults in the commonwealth; (ii) expended to support internships, apprenticeships or other work-based learning programs, or programs that provide vocational or professional training to address workforce skills gaps or workforce readiness in priority economic sectors or (iii) competitively granted to eligible recipients described in subsection (c).

*Summary:*

This section, together with related sections, authorizes the Secretary of Economic Development, in consultation with the Secretary of Labor and Workforce Development, to transfer funds from the Workforce Investment Trust Fund to the Economic Development Trust Fund and allows for more flexible use of the Workforce Investment Trust Fund.

## **Section 12 - Workforce Investment Trust Fund and Economic Development Trust Fund Reforms 4**

SECTION 12. Subsection (c) of said section 18 of said chapter 23N, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 25, the word "and" and inserting in place thereof the following word:- or.

*Summary:*

This section, together with related sections, authorizes the Secretary of Economic Development, in consultation with the Secretary of Labor and Workforce Development, to transfer funds from the Workforce Investment Trust Fund to the Economic Development Trust Fund and allows for more flexible use of the Workforce Investment Trust Fund.

## **Section 13 - Workforce Investment Trust Fund and Economic Development Trust Fund Reforms 5**

SECTION 13. Said subsection (c) of said section 18 of said chapter 23N, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by striking out, in line 31, the word "permits" and inserting in place thereof the following words:- permits, apprenticeships.

*Summary:*

This section, together with related sections, authorizes the Secretary of Economic Development, in consultation with the Secretary of Labor and Workforce Development, to transfer funds from the Workforce Investment Trust Fund to the Economic Development Trust Fund and allows for more flexible use of the Workforce Investment Trust Fund.

## **Section 14 - Workforce Investment Trust Fund and Economic Development Trust Fund Reforms 6**

SECTION 14. Subsection (d) of said section 18 of said chapter 23N, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 50, the words "housing and".

*Summary:*

This section, together with related sections, authorizes the Secretary of Economic Development, in consultation with the Secretary of Labor and Workforce Development, to transfer funds from the Workforce Investment Trust Fund to the Economic Development Trust Fund and allows for more flexible use of the Workforce Investment Trust Fund.

## **Section 15 - De-Regulation of Level 3 Chargers**

SECTION 15. Section 5 of chapter 25B of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2024 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out clause (20) and inserting in place thereof the following clause:-

(20) Level 1 and Level 2 electric vehicle supply equipment included in the scope of the ENERGY STAR Program Requirements Product Specification for Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment, Version 1.2 (Rev. June 2023), shall meet the qualification criteria of that specification.

*Summary:*

This section exempts Level 3 electric vehicle chargers from regulation by the Department of Energy Resources.

## **Section 16 - Dedicated Transportation Income Surtax Revenue**

SECTION 16. Subsection (a) of section 2BBBBBB of chapter 29 of the General Laws, as most recently amended by section 18 of chapter 9 of the acts of 2025, is hereby amended by striking out the figure "\$550,000,000" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- \$975,000,000.

***Summary:***

This section amends the dedicated transportation income surtax revenue amount committed to the Commonwealth Transportation Fund from the Education and Transportation Fund.

### **Section 17 - Capital Gains Threshold 1**

SECTION 17. Section 5G of chapter 29 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2024 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out, in lines 6, 8 and 14, the figure "\$1,000,000,000", each time it appears, and inserting in place thereof, in each instance, the following figure:- \$2,250,000,000.

***Summary:***

This section, together with its related section, updates the excess capital gains threshold.

### **Section 18 - Excess Capital Gains Rolling Average**

SECTION 18. Said section 5G of said chapter 29, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out, in lines 16 to 19, inclusive, the words "average annual rate of growth in United States gross domestic product over the preceding 5 years based on the most recently available data published by the Bureau of Economic Analysis in the United States Department of Commerce" and inserting in place thereof the following words:- 95 per cent of the average of final certified capital gains tax revenues for the prior 10 fiscal years, including the most recently ended fiscal year, adjusted for inflation based on the most recently available national gross domestic product price index data published by the Bureau of Economic Analysis in the federal Department of Commerce.

***Summary:***

This section updates the methodology to calculate the annual excess capital gains threshold adjustment.

### **Section 19 - Stabilization Fund and Long-Term Liability Financing Task Force and Budget Stress Test**

SECTION 19. Chapter 29 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 5G the following 2 sections:-

Section 5G1/4. There shall be a standing stabilization fund and long-term liability financing task force to review and make recommendations relative to: (i) the appropriate long-term level of funding for the Commonwealth Stabilization Fund established pursuant to section 2H; (ii) the appropriate level and means of funding for long-term financial liabilities of the commonwealth and (iii) amendments to the mechanisms that provide funding for the Commonwealth Stabilization Fund and other long-term financial liabilities, including the provisions of section 5G.

The task force shall review: (i) the statutory threshold for excess capital gains collections established in said section 5G in consideration of historical and estimated future capital gains collections; (ii) the disbursement percentages required under said section 5G; (iii) best practices related to the funding of long-term financial liabilities among states; (iv) best practices related to the funding and size of stabilization and disaster relief funds among states; (v) the impacts of relevant fiscal policies on the commonwealth's credit ratings; (vi) an assessment of potential fiscal impacts to the commonwealth resulting from natural disasters, with consideration for historical experience and trends

and (vii) any other relevant fiscal factors to ensure the most prudent use of state revenues. The task force shall consider said disbursement percentages in consideration of the relative size or funding level of the Commonwealth Stabilization Fund, the State Retiree Benefits Trust Fund established pursuant to section 24 of chapter 32A, the Commonwealth's Pension Liability Fund established pursuant to subsection (e) of subdivision 8 of section 22 of chapter 32 and other long-term financial liabilities of the commonwealth.

The task force shall consist of the secretary of administration and finance, who shall serve as chair; the state treasurer or a designee; the comptroller or a designee; the commissioner of revenue or a designee; 1 individual appointed by the governor who shall be an expert in public finance and who shall be a resident of the commonwealth and 1 individual appointed by the state treasurer who shall be an expert in state public finance.

The task force shall report on its analysis and issue recommendations to the clerks of the senate and house of representatives beginning June 1, 2030, and every 5 years thereafter.

Section 5G1/2. The executive office for administration and finance, in consultation with the department of revenue, shall annually conduct a multi-year budget forecast and evaluate the potential prospective stress impacts of economic scenarios, to be determined by the secretary of administration and finance, for at least the next 3 fiscal years including, but not limited to: (i) notable causes of potential deficiencies and key risk factors impacting the state budget; (ii) potential effects of economic changes on tax revenue collections and spending pressures and (iii) sufficiency of the Commonwealth Stabilization Fund established pursuant to section 2H and other reserve balances, as identified by the secretary, in offsetting potential revenue declines and spending pressures. The executive office shall submit a report to the house and senate committees on ways and means not later than October 31 of each year with the results of the multi-year forecast and stress impact evaluation.

*Summary:*

This section codifies the Stabilization Fund and Long-term Liability Financing Task Force and requires the Executive Office for Administration and Finance to annually review potential prospective stress impacts of economic scenarios for future fiscal years.

## **Section 20 - Owner's Representative 1**

SECTION 20. Section 39M½ of chapter 30 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2024 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 16, the figure "\$50,000,000" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- \$100,000,000.

*Summary:*

This section, together with related sections, increases the threshold for contracts requiring an owner's representative in transportation projects from \$50,000,000 to \$100,000,000 and removes the requirement that an owner's representative be a professional engineer.

## **Section 21 - Owner's Representative 2**

SECTION 21. Said section 39M½ of said chapter 30, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by striking out the definitions of "Oversight cost estimate" and "Owner's representative" inserting in place thereof the following 2 definitions:-

"Oversight cost estimate", an estimate developed by the commonwealth or any agency thereof, prior to the engagement of an owner's representative, of the anticipated total cost of the services of that representative.

"Owner's representative", an individual who has not less than 5 years of experience in the construction and supervision of construction of the type which is the subject of the pertinent major contract in nature, scope and complexity.

*Summary:*

This section, together with related sections, increases the threshold for contracts requiring an owner's representative in transportation projects from \$50,000,000 to \$100,000,000 and removes the requirement that an owner's representative be a professional engineer.

## **Section 22 - Triennial Pension Funding Schedule**

SECTION 22. Subsection (1) of section 22C of chapter 32 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2024 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out the third paragraph and inserting in place thereof the following paragraph:-

Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, appropriations or transfers made to the Commonwealth's Pension Liability Fund in fiscal years 2027 to 2029, inclusive, shall be made in accordance with the following funding schedule: (i) \$5,130,518,640 in fiscal year 2027; (ii) \$5,335,739,386 in fiscal year 2028 and (iii) \$5,549,168,961 in fiscal year 2029. Notwithstanding any provision of this subdivision to the contrary, any adjustments to these amounts shall be limited to increases in the schedule amounts for each of the specified years.

*Summary:*

This section provides for the Commonwealth's payments into the Pension Liability Fund for Fiscal Years 2027, 2028 and 2029.

## **Section 23 - 40A Electronic Notifications 1**

SECTION 23. Section 5 of chapter 40A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2024 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the word "sent", in lines 31 and 44, each time it appears, the following words:- electronically or.

*Summary:*

This section, together with related sections, amends Chapter 40A to allow for notice to be sent via email.

## **Section 24 - 40A Electronic Notifications 2**

SECTION 24. Said section 5 of said chapter 40A, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by inserting, after the word "notice", in line 37, the following words:- electronically or.

*Summary:*

This section, together with related sections, amends Chapter 40A to allow for notice to be sent via email.

### **Section 25 - 40A Electronic Notifications 3**

SECTION 25. Section 11 of said chapter 40A, as so appearing, is hereby amended by inserting, after the word "sent", in line 8, the following words:- electronically or.

*Summary:*

This section, together with related sections, amends Chapter 40A to allow for notice to be sent via email.

### **Section 26 - 40A Electronic Notifications 4**

SECTION 26. Said section 11 of said chapter 40A, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by inserting, after the word "notice", in line 23, the following words:- electronically or.

*Summary:*

This section, together with related sections, amends Chapter 40A to allow for notice to be sent via email.

### **Section 27 - DNA Exception to Statute of Limitations 1**

SECTION 27. Chapter 41 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out section 97B1/2, as appearing in the 2024 Official Edition, and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

Section 97B1/2. (a) A hospital licensed pursuant to chapter 111 and all other medical facilities that conduct medical forensic examinations shall notify a local law enforcement agency at the time the evidence of a sexual assault is obtained and no later than 24 hours after using a new kit for the collection of sexual assault evidence.

(b) Local law enforcement agencies shall:

(1) Take possession of the sexual assault evidence kit from hospitals and other medical facilities that conduct medical forensic examinations within 3 business days of notification.

(2) Submit new sexual assault evidence kits to the crime laboratory within the department of the state police or the police department of a municipality that operates a crime laboratory and has a population of more than 150,000, in the case of a sexual assault alleged to have taken place in that municipality, within 7 business days of taking possession, except that non-investigatory sexual assault evidence kits associated with a victim who has not yet filed a report with law enforcement shall not be subject to the 7 day requirement. Non-investigatory kits shall be safely stored by law enforcement in a manner that preserves evidence for the duration of the statute of limitations for all sexual assault and rape cases; provided, however, that all kits shall be retained for not less than 15 years.

(c) The crime laboratory within the department of the state police or the police department of a municipality that operates a crime laboratory and has a population of more than 150,000, in the case of a sexual assault alleged to have taken place in that municipality, shall test all sexual assault evidence kits within 30 days of receipt from local law enforcement, notwithstanding the statute of limitations of the underlying offense.

(d) In cases where testing results in a DNA profile, the crime laboratory shall enter the full profile into CODIS and the state DNA database.

(e) Each sexual assault evidence kit shall be entered into the statewide sexual assault evidence kit tracking system pursuant to section 18X of chapter 6A.

*Summary:*

This section, together with its related section, requires that all sexual assault rape kits be stored for a minimum of 15 years and provides an exception to the 15-year statute of limitations in instances in which DNA technology has identified a match.

## **Section 28 - Driver's License Non-Renewals 2**

SECTION 28. Chapter 60A of the General Laws, is hereby amended by striking out section 2A, as appearing in the 2024 Official Edition, and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

Section 2A. If an excise assessed under this chapter remains unpaid for 14 days after a demand therefor made more than 1 day after such excise becomes due and payable, and if the local tax collector or commissioner of revenue elects to utilize the services of a deputy collector, then said deputy collector or the local tax collector or commissioner of revenue, as the case may be, shall send a notice of warrant to the delinquent taxpayer. If the delinquent taxpayer does not respond within 30 days to said notice of warrant then a service warrant shall be made. If the tax remains unpaid after the service of warrant then the deputy collector may, at the discretion of the local collector, return the uncollected warrants of those delinquent taxpayers to the local tax collector or commissioner of revenue.

*Summary:*

This section, together with related sections, eliminates the practice of imposing driver's license non-renewals and motor vehicle registration non-renewals for certain unpaid debts and provides for an alternative enforcement mechanism.

## **Section 29 - Speed Camera Enforcement 2**

SECTION 29. Section 17 of chapter 90 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2024 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out, in lines 9 and 11, each time they appear, the words "for a distance of a quarter of a mile".

*Summary:*

This section, together with related sections, authorizes the Massachusetts Department of Transportation to establish a speed camera enforcement program to allow DOT and municipalities to enforce posted speed limits through speed cameras in construction zones and school zones, respectively.

## **Section 30 - Speed Camera Enforcement 3**

SECTION 30. Said section 17 of said chapter 90 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by striking out, in line 13, the words "for a distance of one-eighth of a mile".

*Summary:*

This section, together with related sections, authorizes the Massachusetts Department of Transportation to establish a speed camera enforcement program to allow DOT and municipalities to enforce posted speed limits through speed cameras in construction zones and school zones, respectively.

### **Section 31 - Driver's License Non-Renewals 3**

SECTION 31. The third paragraph of section 20A of said chapter 90 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out the last sentence.

*Summary:*

This section, together with related sections, eliminates the practice of imposing driver's license non-renewals and motor vehicle registration non-renewals for certain unpaid debts and provides for an alternative enforcement mechanism.

### **Section 32 - Driver's License Non-Renewals 4**

SECTION 32. Said section 20A of said chapter 90, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by striking out the seventh paragraph.

*Summary:*

This section, together with related sections, eliminates the practice of imposing driver's license non-renewals and motor vehicle registration non-renewals for certain unpaid debts and provides for an alternative enforcement mechanism.

### **Section 33 - Driver's License Non-Renewals 5**

SECTION 33. Said section 20A of said chapter 90, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by striking out, in line 144, the words "notwithstanding any notification to the registrar".

*Summary:*

This section, together with related sections, eliminates the practice of imposing driver's license non-renewals and motor vehicle registration non-renewals for certain unpaid debts and provides for an alternative enforcement mechanism.

### **Section 34 - Driver's License Non-Renewals 6**

SECTION 34. Section 20A½ of said chapter 90, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out, in lines 42 to 44, inclusive, the words "Failure to obey this notice within twenty-one days after the date of violation may result in the non-renewal of the license to drive and the registration of the registered owner.".

***Summary:***

This section, together with related sections, eliminates the practice of imposing driver's license non-renewals and motor vehicle registration non-renewals for certain unpaid debts and provides for an alternative enforcement mechanism.

### **Section 35 - Driver's License Non-Renewals 7**

SECTION 35. Said section 20A½ of said chapter 90, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by striking out, in lines 82 and 83, the words "but before the parking clerk reports to the registrar".

***Summary:***

This section, together with related sections, eliminates the practice of imposing driver's license non-renewals and motor vehicle registration non-renewals for certain unpaid debts and provides for an alternative enforcement mechanism.

### **Section 36 - Driver's License Non-Renewals 8**

SECTION 36. Said section 20A½ of said chapter 90, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by striking out the eighth paragraph.

***Summary:***

This section, together with related sections, eliminates the practice of imposing driver's license non-renewals and motor vehicle registration non-renewals for certain unpaid debts and provides for an alternative enforcement mechanism.

### **Section 37 - Driver's License Non-Renewals 9**

SECTION 37. Said section 20A½ of said chapter 90, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by striking out, in line 120, the words "notwithstanding any notification to the registrar".

***Summary:***

This section, together with related sections, eliminates the practice of imposing driver's license non-renewals and motor vehicle registration non-renewals for certain unpaid debts and provides for an alternative enforcement mechanism.

### **Section 38 - Driver's License Non-Renewals 10**

SECTION 38. Section 20E of said chapter 90, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out subsection (d) and inserting in place thereof the following subsection:-

(d) If such lessee or rentee does not appear in person or by writing as otherwise provided in sections 20A or 20A½ or any other general or special law concerning parking violations, or make payment within 21 days from the date on which such notice is issued, the parking clerk shall notify the clerk of the division of the district court department or Boston municipal court department of the trial

court having jurisdiction. Upon notification by the parking clerk, the clerk of the district court of the trial court having jurisdiction shall forthwith issue a criminal complaint against the lessee or rentee and thereafter proceed against such lessee or rentee following the procedures established for criminal cases.

*Summary:*

This section, together with related sections, eliminates the practice of imposing driver's license non-renewals and motor vehicle registration non-renewals for certain unpaid debts and provides for an alternative enforcement mechanism.

### **Section 39 - Driver's License Non-Renewals 11**

SECTION 39. Section 20G of said chapter 90, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out, in lines 6 and 7, the words "the license to operate a motor vehicle or".

*Summary:*

This section, together with related sections, eliminates the practice of imposing driver's license non-renewals and motor vehicle registration non-renewals for certain unpaid debts and provides for an alternative enforcement mechanism.

### **Section 40 - Driver's License Non-Renewals 12**

SECTION 40. Section 20H of said chapter 90, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 3, the words "Port Authority" and inserting in place thereof the following words:- Department of Transportation.

*Summary:*

This section, together with related sections, eliminates the practice of imposing driver's license non-renewals and motor vehicle registration non-renewals for certain unpaid debts and provides for an alternative enforcement mechanism.

### **Section 41 - Driver's License Non-Renewals 13**

SECTION 41. Said section 20H of said chapter 90, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by striking out, in lines 5, 6 and 14, each time it appears, the word "authority" and inserting in place thereof, in each instance, the following word:- department.

*Summary:*

This section, together with related sections, eliminates the practice of imposing driver's license non-renewals and motor vehicle registration non-renewals for certain unpaid debts and provides for an alternative enforcement mechanism.

## **Section 42 - Driver's License Non-Renewals 14**

SECTION 42. Said section 20H of said chapter 90, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by striking out, in line 7, the words "a license to operate a motor vehicle or".

**Summary:**

This section, together with related sections, eliminates the practice of imposing driver's license non-renewals and motor vehicle registration non-renewals for certain unpaid debts and provides for an alternative enforcement mechanism.

## **Section 43 - Driver's License Non-Renewals 15**

SECTION 43. Said chapter 90 of the General Laws is hereby further amended by striking out section 22B, as so appearing, and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

Section 22B. (a) Whoever abandons a motor vehicle registered or unregistered, upon any public or private way or upon any property other than his own, without the permission of the owner or lessee of said property shall be fined \$250 for the first such abandonment and \$500 for each such abandonment thereafter.

This subsection shall not apply in a city or town which accepts the provisions of subsections (b) to (k), inclusive.

Subsections (b) to (k), inclusive, shall apply in any city or town which accepts the provisions of said subsections in accordance with the provisions of section 4 of chapter 4.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a), or any other general or special law to the contrary, proceedings under the provisions of subsections (b) to (k), inclusive, shall be deemed non-criminal.

As used in subsections (b) to (k), inclusive, the word "owner" shall mean the person or entity registered as the owner of a motor vehicle in the records of the registry of motor vehicles or the person or entity who last had custody or possession of a motor vehicle, legally or otherwise, including, but not limited to, operators and owners of automobile graveyards or junkyards as defined in section 1 of chapter 140B; provided, however, that the owner of a motor vehicle which has been stolen from said owner and subsequently abandoned shall not be subject to the penalties provided for in this section.

(c) There shall be in any city or town which accepts the provisions of subsections (b) to (k), inclusive, a parking clerk designated or appointed in the same manner as provided in section 20A1/2. Said parking clerk, in addition to other duties provided by law, shall supervise and coordinate the processing of abandoned motor vehicles.

Said parking clerk may hire personnel or contract by competitive bid for services necessary to implement the provisions of this section.

(d) A person who abandons a motor vehicle, registered or unregistered, upon any public or private way, or upon the property of another, without the permission of the owner or lessee of said property, shall pay a civil penalty of \$250 for the first such abandonment and \$500 for each such abandonment thereafter and, in addition thereto shall be liable for costs incurred by a city or town in removing or disposing of such motor vehicle, including, but not limited to, towing, storage, processing and disposal charges.

(e) A police officer, or a person assigned responsibility for abandoned motor vehicles by the parking clerk, who determines that a motor vehicle has been abandoned shall attach a tag to said vehicle containing, but not limited to, the following information: (i) the current date; (ii) the location of said vehicle; (iii) the vehicle's make, color, registration number, if any, and vehicle identification number; (iv) a telephone number or address at which the owner may obtain information regarding the status of the motor vehicle; (v) the hearing procedure regarding abandoned motor vehicles, as provided herein and (vi) a statement that after a specified period of time, the vehicle may be towed and disposed of.

(f) After said tag has been affixed to such vehicle, if the owner's identity is ascertained and the motor vehicle is still deemed to be abandoned pursuant to section 22C, the parking clerk or their designee shall send a written notice in a form approved by the registrar of motor vehicles by first class mail to the owner's last known address as contained in records of said registrar of motor vehicles. Such notice shall be deemed sufficient, whether or not actually received by the addressee, if mailed to the address furnished by said registrar. Such notice shall contain, but not be limited to, the following information regarding the abandoned vehicle: (i) the current date; (ii) the location of said vehicle, (iii) the vehicle's make, color, registration number, if any, and vehicle identification number; (iv) the amount of the fine and costs assessed for the offense and (v) the scheduled date, time and place of the hearing before a hearing officer. Notwithstanding the hearing scheduled by the parking clerk, the owner shall be granted a hearing prior to the scheduled hearing date by appearing at the office of the parking clerk during its regular business hours and requesting an immediate hearing regarding the apparently abandoned motor vehicle. Notwithstanding the hearing scheduled by the parking clerk, the owner may elect to have the matter adjudicated in accordance with the provisions of subsection (h).

(g) All such hearings shall be held before a person hereinafter referred to as a hearing officer who shall be either the parking clerk or a designee of said parking clerk. Such hearings shall be informal, the rules of evidence shall not apply and decisions of the hearing officer shall be subject to judicial review as provided by section 14 of chapter 30A. No appeal or exception shall operate to stay the imposition of the fine and costs as provided for herein.

(h) A person so notified to appear before the hearing officer may appear and contest or confess the alleged violation, either personally or through an agent duly authorized in writing or in the alternative, may confess the alleged violation by mailing to the parking clerk the notice accompanied by the fine and any costs assessed; provided, however, that such payment shall be made only by postal note, money order or registered check made payable to the city or town in which the violation occurred.

(i) If the owner fails to appear at a hearing, or fails to pay the fine and costs, the parking clerk shall, in the case of an entity, notify the appropriate person to revoke or not renew the owner's license or permit to operate a business pertaining to the towing, storing, servicing or dismantling of motor vehicles including, without limitation, automobile graveyards and junkyards.

(j) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this section, whenever the clerk or a person designated or appointed by said clerk, shall deem that an abandoned motor vehicle is worth less than the cost of its removal, transportation and 3 days storage and expenses incidental to its disposal, said clerk or designee shall direct a carrier to take possession of such motor vehicle and dispose of it as refuse. A record of such disposal shall be made and kept in the office of said clerk for a period of 2 years from the date of disposal. Neither said clerk, carrier nor the city or town shall be liable for such disposal. The owner of such vehicle shall be notified as hereinbefore provided and shall pay to said carrier all charges for removal, transportation, storage and disposal of such vehicle within 14 days after the mailing of said notice or said owner shall be subject to the fine herein.

***Summary:***

This section, together with related sections, eliminates the practice of imposing driver's license non-renewals and motor vehicle registration non-renewals for certain unpaid debts and provides for an alternative enforcement mechanism.

### **Section 44 - Driver's License Non-Renewals 16**

SECTION 44. Section 23 of said chapter 90, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out the last paragraph.

***Summary:***

This section, together with related sections, eliminates the practice of imposing driver's license non-renewals and motor vehicle registration non-renewals for certain unpaid debts and provides for an alternative enforcement mechanism.

### **Section 45 - Driver's License Non-Renewals 17**

SECTION 45. Subsection (a) of section 26A of said chapter 90, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out the second sentence.

***Summary:***

This section, together with related sections, eliminates the practice of imposing driver's license non-renewals and motor vehicle registration non-renewals for certain unpaid debts and provides for an alternative enforcement mechanism.

### **Section 46 - Speed Camera Enforcement 4**

SECTION 46. The General Laws are hereby amended by inserting after chapter 90K the following chapter:-

#### **CHAPTER 90L AUTOMATED ROAD SAFETY ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM**

Section 1. For the purposes of this section, the following words shall, unless the context clearly requires otherwise, have the following meanings:

"Automated road safety camera system", an automated motor vehicle sensor device that produces digital photographs, video or other images of a motor vehicle that commits a speed camera enforceable violation at the location where the automated motor vehicle sensor device is installed.

"Department", the Massachusetts Department of Transportation established in section 2 of chapter 6C.

"Enforcing authority", (i) the municipal entity designated by the city manager in a city with a Plan D or E form of government, the mayor in all other cities or the board of selectmen in a town, (ii) the department or (iii) such other person, contractor or entity as the municipal entity or the department may designate to supervise and coordinate the administration of speed camera enforceable violations under this section.

"Secretary", the secretary of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation.

"Social and racial equity", efforts, policies, standards, processes and any other functions of government intended to ensure that patterns of discrimination and disparities of race, ethnicity and socioeconomic status, whether intentional or unintentional, are neither reinforced nor perpetuated and prevent the emergence and persistence of foreseeable future patterns of discrimination or disparities of race, ethnicity and socioeconomic status.

"Speed camera enforceable violation", exceeding the posted speed limit (i) by 6 miles per hour or more over the posted speed limit in a school zone established by a city or town as provided in section 2 of chapter 85 in violation of section 17 when a school zone speed limit is in effect or (ii) by 11 miles per hour or more over the posted speed limit in an active construction or work zones in violation of section 17D of chapter 90.

"Registrar", the registrar of motor vehicles.

Section 2. (a) The department's highway division shall establish by regulation the requirements, standards and processes for participation in the automated road safety camera program for municipalities and issue a procurement pursuant to which enforcing authorities may obtain road safety camera systems and other related services to implement speed camera enforceable violations. An enforcing authority may install automated road safety camera systems as a means of promoting traffic safety. The automated road safety camera systems may be placed: (i) by a municipality along any school zone established by the city or town as provided in section 2 of chapter 85; or (ii) by the department in any active construction or work zone.

Nothing in this section shall be construed as limiting the authority of law enforcement to issue citations for speeding violations pursuant to section 2 of chapter 90C.

(b) An enforcing authority shall not employ more than 1 automated road safety camera system per 5,000 residents as measured by using the most recent census data. Plans for locating automated road safety camera systems shall be approved by the select board in a town, or by the city council and the mayor in a city. Nothing in this paragraph shall limit the department from employing an automated road safety camera system in a construction or work zone, irrespective of the number of automated road safety camera systems in use in the city or town in which the work zone exists.

(c) Annually, not later than December 1, a participating city or town shall transmit a report to the department detailing each automated road safety camera system located in the city or town during the previous fiscal year. The report shall be in the form and manner determined by the department and shall include, but not be limited to: (i) a list of the locations of the automated road safety camera system in the city or town; (ii) the number of fines and warnings issued for each separate location; (iii) the number of fines and warnings successfully contested for each separate location's speed camera enforceable violations and (iv) an analysis of speed and crash data at each separate location and (v) a description of any other public safety impacts of the city or town's participation in the automated road safety enforcement program. The department shall post all reports received pursuant to this section on its website.

Section 3. (a) The fines and warnings imposed for speed camera enforceable violations, as accrued in a 2-year look-back period, shall be as follows: (i) a warning for a first violation and (ii) either: (A) \$25 for a second or subsequent violation or (B) \$100 for a second or subsequent violation of driving at a speed of 25 miles per hour or more over the posted speed limit; provided, however, that if subclause (B) applies, then the fine under subclause (A) shall not apply.

Enforcing authorities shall be responsible for tracking subsequent violations to ascertain the appropriate fee under this section.

(b) Except as provided in section 4, the registered owner of a motor vehicle shall be liable for the fine; provided, however, that a registered owner of a motor vehicle shall not be liable for the fine imposed under this program for a speed camera enforceable violation if the operator of the motor vehicle was issued a citation for the violation in accordance with section 2 of chapter 90C.

(c) A certificate, or a facsimile thereof, based upon inspection of photographs, video or other images and data produced by an automated road safety camera system and sworn to or affirmed by the enforcing authority shall be *prima facie* evidence of the facts contained therein.

(d) A speed camera enforceable violation issued by an enforcing authority under this program shall not be: (i) made part of the official record of the person upon whom such liability is imposed as provided in section 27 of chapter 90 or (ii) a conviction of a moving violation of the motor vehicle laws for the purpose of determining a surcharge on a motor vehicle premium pursuant to section 113B of chapter 175.

(e) An enforcing authority may hire and designate personnel as necessary or contract for services to implement this program through the procurement conducted by the highway division provided in subsection (a) of section 2. Any such contract shall include a provision that all data collected from automated road safety camera systems is confidential and the exclusive property of the contracting enforcement authority, and shall prohibit the contractor from using, disclosing, selling or permitting access to data collected by an automated road safety camera system except as necessary to process speed camera enforceable violations and conduct reporting in accordance with this chapter.

(f)(1) The enforcing authority shall provide a notice of violation to the registered owner of a motor vehicle that is identified in photographs, video or other images produced by an automated road safety camera system as evidence of a speed camera enforceable violation pursuant to this program. The notice shall include, but not be limited to: (i) a copy of the photographs produced by the automated road safety camera system and any other data showing the vehicle in the process of a speed camera enforceable violation; (ii) the registration number and state of issuance of the vehicle; (iii) the date, time and location of the alleged speed camera enforceable violation; (iv) the specific speed camera enforceable violation charged; (v) the speed limit and the actual speed of the vehicle; (vi) instructions for payment of the fine imposed pursuant to subsection (a); (vii) instructions on how to appeal the speed camera enforceable violation in writing and to obtain a hearing and (viii) an affidavit form approved by the enforcing authority for the purposes of making a written appeal pursuant to subsection (h).

(2) In the case of a violation involving a motor vehicle registered in the commonwealth, the enforcing authority shall mail the notice of violation within 14 days of the violation to the address of the registered owner of the motor vehicle as listed in the records of the registrar. If a motor vehicle is registered under the laws of another state or country, the notice of violation shall be mailed within 21 days of the violation to the address of the registered owner as listed in the records of the official in the state or country that has charge of the registration of the motor vehicle. If the address is unavailable, it shall be sufficient for the enforcing authority to mail a notice of violation to the official in the state or country that has charge of the registration of the motor vehicle.

(3) The notice of violation shall be sent by first class mail. A manual or automatic record of mailing processed by or on behalf of the enforcing authority in the ordinary course of business shall be *prima facie* evidence thereof and shall be admitted as evidence in any judicial or administrative proceeding as to the facts contained therein.

(g) A registered owner of a motor vehicle shall not be liable for a speed camera enforceable violation under this program if the: (i) operator of the motor vehicle was operating an emergency vehicle; (ii) violation was necessary to allow the passage of an emergency vehicle; (iii) violation was incurred during a period of time in which the motor vehicle was reported to the police department of any state, city or town as having been stolen and had not been recovered before the time the violation occurred; (iv) operator of the motor vehicle was operating the motor vehicle under a rental or lease agreement and the registered owner of the motor vehicle is a rental or leasing company and has complied with section 4; (v) operator of the motor vehicle was issued a citation for the violation in accordance with section 2 of chapter 90C or (vi) violation was necessary to comply with any other law or regulation governing the operation of a motor vehicle.

(h) A registered owner of a motor vehicle to whom a notice of violation has been issued pursuant to this program may admit responsibility for the violation and pay the fine provided therein in accordance with the instructions in the notice of violation. Payment of the established fine shall operate as the final disposition of a speed camera enforceable violation; provided, however, that payment by a registered owner of a motor vehicle shall operate as the final disposition of the violation as to any other registered owner of the same motor vehicle for the same violation.

(i) Not more than 60 days after a speed camera enforceable violation under this chapter, a registered owner of a motor vehicle may contest responsibility for the violation in writing by mail or online. The registered owner shall provide the enforcing authority with a signed affidavit, in a form approved by the enforcing authority, stating the: (i) reason for disputing the violation; (ii) full legal name and address of the registered owner of the motor vehicle and (iii) full legal name and address of the operator of the motor vehicle at the time the violation occurred. The registered owner may include signed statements from witnesses, including the names and addresses of witnesses, supporting the registered owner's defense. Not more than 21 days after receipt of the signed affidavit, the enforcing authority or the hearing officer shall send the decision of the hearing officer, including the reasons for the outcome, by first class mail to the registered owner. If the registered owner is found responsible for the violation, the registered owner shall pay the fine in the manner described in subsection (h) not more than 14 days after the issuance of the decision or request further judicial review pursuant to section 14 of chapter 30A.

(j) In lieu of contesting responsibility for a violation in writing or online pursuant to subsection (h) and not more than 60 days after a violation under this program, a registered owner of the motor vehicle may request a hearing in accordance with the instructions in the notice of violation to contest responsibility for a speed camera enforceable violation. A hearing request shall be made in writing by mail or online. Upon receipt of a hearing request, the enforcing authority shall schedule the matter before a hearing officer. The hearing officer may be an employee of the enforcing authority or such other person as the enforcing authority may designate. Written notice of the date, time and place of the hearing shall be sent by first class mail to each registered owner of the motor vehicle. The hearing shall be informal, the rules of evidence shall not apply and the decision of the hearing officer shall be final subject to judicial review pursuant to section 14 of chapter 30A. Not more than 21 days after the hearing, the enforcing authority or the hearing officer shall send the decision of the hearing officer, including the reason for the outcome, by first class mail to the registered owner. If the registered owner is found to be responsible for the speed camera enforceable violation, the registered owner shall pay the fine in the manner described in subsection (h) not more than 14 days after the issuance of the decision or request further judicial review pursuant to said section 14 of said chapter 30A.

(k) Subject to any limitations the department may impose by regulation by agreement with the registrar, the enforcing authority may notify the registrar when a Massachusetts registered owner of a motor vehicle to whom a notice of a speed camera enforceable violation has been issued: (i) fails to contest the responsibility for a violation pursuant to subsection (i) or subsection (j) and fails to pay the fine in the notice in accordance with subsection (h) within 60 days of the violation or (ii) is found responsible for the violation and does not pay the fine in accordance with subsection (h) or subsection

(i) and the registrar shall apply a non-renew to the vehicle's registration. The enforcing authority may at any time but not later than 2 years after the initial fine issuance was made, transmit such notice of non payment to the registrar, in such form and containing such information as required by the registrar; provided, however, that no notice shall be transmitted to the registrar under this section at a time when there is pending, before either the enforcing authority or a court, a duly filed appeal of the fine. Upon receipt of such notification of nonpayment the registrar shall place the matter on record and not renew the registration of the motor vehicle to which a notice of a speed camera enforceable violation has been issued to the registered owner, nor allow an exchange of the registration of such vehicle nor issue a new registration of such vehicle to the person to whom the unpaid fine was assessed until after notice from the enforcing authority that the matter has been disposed of in accordance with the requirements herein. Upon such notification of nonpayment to the registrar, an additional \$20 charge payable to the registrar of motor vehicles shall be assessed against the registered owner of said vehicle to be collected by the enforcing authority to be transferred to the registry of motor vehicles as part of the non-renewal process. It shall be the duty of the enforcing authority to notify the registrar that such matters have been disposed of in accordance with the requirements herein; provided however, that a certified receipt of full and final payment from the enforcing authority shall also serve as a legal notice to the registrar that the matter has been resolved. The registrar shall approve such forms as they deem necessary to implement this section and said forms shall be printed and used by the enforcing authorities.

Section 4. (a) Notwithstanding section 3, if the registered owner of a motor vehicle is a person or entity engaged in the business of leasing or renting motor vehicles and the motor vehicle was operated under a rental or lease agreement at the time of the speed camera enforceable violation, this section shall be applicable and the registered owner shall not be liable for any unpaid fines if the registered owner has complied with the requirements of this section.

(b) The enforcing authority shall provide notice in writing of each speed camera enforceable violation to the registered owner of a motor vehicle if a motor vehicle owned by the registered owner is involved in a speed camera enforceable violation.

(c) Not more than 45 days after the violation, the registered owner shall furnish to the enforcing authority, in writing, the name and address of the lessee or rentee of the motor vehicle at the time of the speed camera enforceable violation, the lessee's or rentee's driver's license number, the state that issued the driver's license and the lessee's or rentee's date of birth.

(d) Upon receipt of the information required under subsection (c), the enforcing authority shall issue a notice of a speed camera enforceable violation to the lessee or rentee in the form prescribed by section 3 and the lessee or rentee shall be liable for the violation.

(e) Subject to any limitations the department may impose by regulation by agreement with the registrar, the enforcing authority may notify the registrar as provided in subsection (k) of section 4 if the lessee or rentee to whom a notice of violation has been issued: (i) fails to contest the responsibility for a speed camera enforceable violation pursuant to either subsection (i) or subsection (j) of section 3 and fails to pay the fine in the notice in accordance with subsection (h) of said section 3 within 90 days of the violation or (ii) is found responsible for the violation and does not pay the fine in accordance with said subsection (i) or said subsection (j) of said section 3; provided, however, that if the vehicle owner furnished the information under subsection (c), such non-renewal shall only apply to the license or right to operate of the lessee or rentee and not the registration of the vehicle.

Section 5. (a) An enforcement authority shall install a reasonable distance away from each road safety camera system an unobstructed sign notifying the public that an automated road safety camera system is in use.

(b) An enforcing authority shall make a public announcement and conduct a public awareness campaign concerning its use of automated road safety camera systems beginning not less than 60 days before the first such automated road safety camera system is put into use; provided, however, that an enforcing authority may install but shall not activate automated road safety camera systems during the 60-day time period; provided further, that no further public awareness campaign shall be required for additional automated road safety camera systems that may be added in the participating city or town.

Section 6. (a) The compensation paid to the manufacturer or vendor of an automated road safety camera system shall not be based on the number of speed camera enforceable violations issued or the revenue generated by the automated road safety camera system.

(b) Not less than every 90 days, a city or town that adopts this chapter, or their designee, shall inspect the automated road safety camera system to verify that the automated road safety camera system are correctly calibrated. Not less than annually, an independent professional engineer registered in the commonwealth or an independent laboratory shall verify that the automated road safety camera system are correctly calibrated. Prior to the installation of an automated road safety camera system in a work zone, the department or their designee shall inspect the automated road safety camera system to verify that the automated road safety camera system is correctly calibrated.

Section 7. (a) An automated road safety camera system shall only take photographs, video or other images when a speed camera enforceable violation occurs. Photographs and video shall be destroyed not more than 48 hours after the final disposition of a speed camera enforceable violation.

(b) A photograph, video or other image taken pursuant to this chapter shall not be discoverable in any judicial or administrative proceeding, other than in a proceeding held pursuant to this chapter, without a court order. A photograph or video taken pursuant to this chapter shall not be admissible in any judicial or administrative proceeding, other than in a proceeding to adjudicate liability for a violation of this chapter, without a court order. A court shall not order a release of a photograph or video taken pursuant to this chapter unless the photograph or video establishes or undermines a finding of a moving violation and the speed camera enforceable violation is material as to a finding of civil or criminal liability.

(c) Photographs, video or other images and other personal identifying information collected by a city or town pursuant to this chapter shall not be a public record under clause twenty-sixth of section 7 of chapter 4 or chapter 66. Each enforcing authority shall maintain the confidentiality of all information including, but not limited to, photographs or other recorded images and credit and account data, relative to the registered vehicle or registered owner of the vehicle subject to a speed camera enforceable violation. Such information shall be used for enforcement purposes only with respect to speed camera enforceable violations under this act.

(d) An automated road safety camera system shall not be utilized to take a frontal view photograph of a motor vehicle operator committing a speed camera enforceable violation or other occupants of the vehicle. A frontal view photograph of a motor vehicle committing a speed camera enforceable violation taken by an automated road safety camera system that captures the operator or occupants of the vehicle shall not be discoverable or admissible in any judicial or administrative proceeding and shall not be used as the basis for a speed camera enforceable violation under this chapter. To the extent practicable, additional efforts shall be made to ensure that photographs produced by an automated road safety camera system shall not be used to identify the vehicle operator, the passengers or the contents of the vehicle. The use of facial recognition technology in conjunction with an automated road safety camera system is prohibited.

(e) A city or town or a manufacturer or vendor of an automated road safety camera system may not use, disclose, sell or permit access to data collected by an automated road safety camera system

except as necessary to process speed camera enforceable violations and fulfill reporting requirements in accordance with this chapter.

Section 8. An enforcing authority may recover costs reasonably related to the implementation and operation of an automated road safety camera system including, but not limited to, costs associated with: (i) purchasing, maintaining and operating the automated road safety camera system; (ii) issuing notices of speed camera enforceable violations; (iii) holding hearings for appeals of speed camera enforceable violations; (iv) notifying the registrar of a failure to pay a fine under this program; (v) fulfilling reporting requirements in accordance with this chapter and (vi) collecting a fine; provided, however, that net revenues collected by participating cities and towns pursuant to this program shall be deposited in the Massachusetts Transportation Trust Fund established in section 4 of chapter 6C.

Section 9. A city or town shall not implement this program unless the city or town has submitted a plan for the implementation of automated road safety camera systems to the department and the department has approved the plan. The plan submitted to the department shall include, but shall not be limited to, data and analysis of the traffic and safety history of the locations where automated road safety camera systems are proposed to be located, the discussion of social and racial equity impacts of the plan and steps the municipality shall take to ensure social and racial equity in the implementation of the plan.

Nothing in this section shall limit the number of work zones in which the department may install automated road safety camera systems.

***Summary:***

This section, together with related sections, authorizes the Massachusetts Department of Transportation to establish a speed camera enforcement program to allow DOT and municipalities to enforce posted speed limits through speed cameras in construction zones and school zones, respectively.

## **Section 47 - Simplified Subscription Cancellations**

SECTION 47. Chapter 93 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the following section:-

Section 115. (a) For the purposes of this section, the following words shall have the following meanings unless the context otherwise requires or specifically prescribes a different meaning:

"Negative option feature", a provision of a contract under which the consumer's silence or failure to take affirmative action to reject a good or service or to cancel or non-renew an agreement is interpreted by the seller as acceptance or continuing acceptance of the offer including, but not limited to, an automatic renewal, a continuity plan, a free-to-pay conversion or fee-to-pay conversion and a pre-notification negative option plan.

"Product", a good, whether tangible or intangible, or service available for sale or included as part of a sale for personal, family or household use, including memberships, subscriptions and dwelling units available for rent or lease.

(b) For any product with a negative option feature, failure to provide a simple mechanism for the consumer to cancel the negative option feature and avoid being charged for the product and immediately stop any recurring charges shall be unlawful. The simple cancellation mechanism shall be at least as easy to access and use as the method the consumer used to initiate the negative option feature.

(c) For any product with a negative option feature, it shall be unlawful to charge the consumer a price higher than the amount previously disclosed to the consumer unless the contract containing the negative option feature discloses that price increases may occur and, without either: (i) first obtaining the consumer's affirmative consent to such increased price; or (ii) clearly and conspicuously disclosing the price increase in a written notice, and providing any consumer who cancels the negative option feature within 30 days of receiving said written notice a refund on a pro rata basis of any amounts charged at the increased price the remaining term of the service.

(d) The provisions of this section shall apply to the conduct specified herein unless preempted by federal law.

(e) The attorney general may promulgate regulations interpreting the provisions of subsections (b) and (c), including disclosure and notice requirements applicable to products with a negative option feature. Such rules and regulations shall not be inconsistent with the rules, regulations and decisions of the Federal Trade Commission and the federal courts interpreting the provisions of 15 U.S.C. 45(a)(1), also known as the Federal Trade Commission Act, as from time to time amended.

(f) A violation of this section shall constitute an unfair or deceptive act or practice pursuant to chapter 93A.

*Summary:*

This section requires that the method for cancelling subscription agreements is as simple as signing-up.

### **Section 48 - Bureau of Substance Addiction Services Payer of Last Resort**

SECTION 48. Chapter 111E of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out section 17, as appearing in the 2024 Official Edition, and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

Section 17. Subject to appropriation, the division may pay for the cost of medically necessary substance use disorder treatment services for a patient receiving such services in a facility operating pursuant to an agreement between the facility and the division; provided that the patient is not entitled to the payment of such cost from any other source; provided that the payment shall not exceed rates established pursuant to chapter 6A.

The division may promulgate rules, regulations and guidance to implement this section.

*Summary:*

This section permits the Bureau of Substance Addiction Services to cover medically necessary substance use disorder treatment services.

### **Section 49 - Emergency Aid to the Elderly Disabled and Children Asset Limit**

SECTION 49. Chapter 117A of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out section 3, as appearing in the 2024 Official Edition, and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

Section 3. A person shall not be eligible for assistance under the provisions of this chapter if said person is eligible to receive assistance under chapters 115 or 118 or is eligible to receive unemployment compensation under chapter 151A.

The department shall not consider ex-offenders, persons over the age of 45 with no recent work history or persons in residential treatment facilities as eligible solely by virtue of such status.

The department may base eligibility for assistance under this section, wholly or in part, on the amount of the applicant's or recipient's countable assets; provided that the department shall not determine an applicant or recipient to be ineligible for assistance under this chapter solely because such applicant or recipient has countable assets of less than \$2,000.

*Summary:*

This section establishes a minimum \$2,000 countable asset limit for the Emergency Aid to the Elderly Disabled and Children program administered by the Department of Transitional Assistance.

### **Section 50 - Direct Negotiations for Rebates on Certain Drugs and Non-Drug Products**

SECTION 50. Chapter 118E of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 12A the following section:-

Section 12B. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the secretary of health and human services may directly negotiate rebate agreements with manufacturers of non-drug products dispensed by pharmacies and drugs that are not covered outpatient drugs under 42 U.S.C. § 1396r-8 if such agreements maximize value to the commonwealth; provided, however, that the secretary shall not be subject to any otherwise applicable requirements set forth in 801 CMR 21.00 or any successor regulation. Such agreements may be based on the value, efficacy or outcomes of the non-drug product or drug.

*Summary:*

This section allows MassHealth to directly negotiate rebate agreements for drugs not subject to the Medicaid Drug Rebate Program and for certain non-drug products dispensed by pharmacies.

### **Section 51 - MassHealth Overpayment Recovery**

SECTION 51. The fourth paragraph of section 38 of said chapter 118E, as so appearing, is hereby amended by adding the following sentence:- Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the division and its contracted managed care entities shall issue notice of overpayment to a provider only within 6 years after the conclusion of any internal or third-party audit, investigation or finding related to the overpayment, and the division and its contracted managed care entities shall be entitled to assert a right to recover any such overpayment.

*Summary:*

This section establishes a 6-year statute of limitations for MassHealth overpayment recoveries following the conclusion of an internal or external investigation, audit or finding related to the overpayment.

### **Section 52 - Alternative Service of Notice**

SECTION 52. The second paragraph of section 24 of chapter 119 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2024 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out the last sentence and inserting in place thereof the following sentence:- If the identity or whereabouts of a parent is unknown, the petitioner shall, upon motion and with leave of the court, cause notice to be served upon such parent

by: (i) publication once in each of 3 successive weeks in any newspaper as the court may order; (ii) publication on a website designed for such purpose for 3 successive weeks or (iii) through electronic means reasonably calculated to reach the parent as found by the court.

*Summary:*

This section provides additional service options, such as publication on a state operated website, to provide notice related to care and protection actions to serve an unknown or missing parent of a child subject to a care and protection matter.

### **Section 53 - Streamlined Disposition of Public Housing**

SECTION 53. Subsection (p) of section 26 of chapter 121B, as appearing in the 2024 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out, in lines 276 and 277, the words "for not less than 2 years".

*Summary:*

This section removes the required 2-year waiting period for the disposition of public housing.

### **Section 54 - Alcohol Modernization 1**

SECTION 54. The first paragraph of section 12 of chapter 138, as appearing in the 2024 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out, in lines 41, 42, 44, 45 and 53, each time they appear, the words "and contiguous".

*Summary:*

This section, together with related sections, makes several modernizing amendments to the state's alcohol licensing process.

### **Section 55 - Alcohol Modernization 2**

SECTION 55. The fourth paragraph of said section 12 of said chapter 138, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out the fourth sentence.

*Summary:*

This section, together with other related sections, makes several modernizing amendments to the state's alcohol licensing process.

### **Section 56 - Alcohol Modernization 3**

SECTION 56. The first paragraph of section 15 of said chapter 138, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out the seventh sentence.

*Summary:*

This section, together with related sections, makes several modernizing amendments to the state's alcohol licensing process.

## **Section 57 - Alcohol Modernization 4**

SECTION 57. Subsection (n) of section 19B of said chapter 138, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 176, the words "and contiguous".

*Summary:*

This section, together with related sections, makes several modernizing amendments to the state's alcohol licensing process.

## **Section 58 - Alcohol Modernization 5**

SECTION 58. Subsection (n) of section 19C of said chapter 138, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 168, the words "and contiguous".

*Summary:*

This section, together with related sections, makes several modernizing amendments to the state's alcohol licensing process.

## **Section 59 - Alcohol Modernization 6**

SECTION 59. Subsection (o) of section 19E of said chapter 138, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 171, the words "and contiguous".

*Summary:*

This section, together with related sections, makes several modernizing amendments to the state's alcohol licensing process.

## **Section 60 - Alcohol Modernization 7**

SECTION 60. Section 19H of said chapter 138, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out, in lines 11 and 13, each time they appear, the words "and contiguous".

*Summary:*

This section, together with related sections, makes several modernizing amendments to the state's alcohol licensing process.

## **Section 61 - Alcohol Modernization 8**

SECTION 61. Section 23 of said chapter 138, as so appearing, is hereby amended by inserting after the second paragraph the following paragraph:-

No applicant shall be issued a license under this chapter unless such applicant is, with respect to their character, satisfactory to the licensing authorities.

*Summary:*

This section, together with related sections, makes several modernizing amendments to the state's alcohol licensing process.

## **Section 62 - Alcohol Modernization 9**

SECTION 62. Section 67 of said chapter 138, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 7, the word "five" and inserting in place thereof the following words:- 10 business.

*Summary:*

This section, together with related sections, makes several modernizing amendments to the state's alcohol licensing process.

## **Section 63 - Youth Employment Permitting**

SECTION 63. Chapter 149 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out sections 86 to 89, inclusive, as appearing in the 2024 Official Edition, and inserting in place thereof the following 4 sections:-

Section 86. A person shall not employ a child, other than a child over the age of 14 granted an employment permit pursuant to section 87 when it is determined that the welfare of the child will be better served through the granting of the permit, in any place of employment, other than street trades described in section 69; but a child 14 years of age or older in co-operative courses in a public school may be employed by a co-operating establishment upon securing from the superintendent of schools a permit covering the co-operating employment. Children between 14 and 16 years of age who possess the educational qualifications set forth in section 1 of chapter 76 and are employed in private domestic service or service on farms shall be required to secure a permit issued by the superintendent of schools covering such employment. A person employing a minor 14 years of age or older shall procure and keep on file, accessible to the minor, to supervisors of attendance of the town, to agents of the department of elementary and secondary education, to agents of the department of labor standards and to the attorney general or their authorized agents or inspectors, the permit for employment issued to the minor and shall keep a complete list of the names and ages of all minors so employed.

The department of labor standards shall provide for a process that allows for youth employees to submit complaints of workplace rights violations.

All documents related to this section may be provided, generated, approved and signed in an electronic format approved by the department of labor standards.

Section 87. Each superintendent of schools, or where there is no superintendent of schools, the school committee, shall designate a youth work permit coordinator.

An employment permit shall be issued only by the superintendent, or their designee, or youth work permit coordinator of the town where the child to whom it is issued resides during their employment or the town where the child attends school, or, if the child resides outside the commonwealth, of the town where the child is to be employed; provided, that no person authorized as aforesaid shall have authority to issue a permit for a child then in or about to enter that person's own employment or the employment of a firm or corporation of which that person is a member, officer or employee, except in the case that the child is employed by the school or school district in which they are enrolled. Minors 17 years of age or older who can show documented proof of a high school diploma

or the equivalent thereof to the youth work permit coordinator may be employed without the signature of the youth work permit coordinator or by a person so authorized.

A minor seeking an employment permit shall submit an application to the applicable youth work permit coordinator. The youth work permit coordinator, either prior to or subsequent to the minor receiving an offer of employment, shall receive, examine, approve and file the following documents, duly executed:

(1) The school record of a minor under 16 years of age, filled out and signed as provided in section 88, except when such record may be waived thereunder, and evidence that a minor 16 years of age or older meets the requirements for the completion of the sixth grade of the public schools of the town in which the minor resides.

(2) For a minor under 16 years of age, a certificate, signed within the previous 12 months, by a school or family healthcare provider, or by a healthcare provider appointed by the applicable school committee, stating that the minor has been examined by the healthcare provider and, in the provider's opinion, is in sound health.

(3) Evidence of age, showing that the child is of the age required for the issuance of the permit, which shall consist of at least 1 of the following proofs of age:

(a) A birth certificate, or a duly attested transcript thereof, made by a registrar of vital statistics or other officer charged with the duty of recording births.

(b) A religious record, or a duly attested transcript thereof, showing the age of the child.

(c) If none of the aforesaid proofs of age is obtainable, and only in such case, the person issuing employment permits may accept, in lieu thereof, a passport or a duly attested immigration record, or transcript thereof, showing the age of the child, or other official record of the child's age; provided, that it shall appear to the satisfaction of said person that the same is good and sufficient evidence of the child's age.

(d) If none of the aforesaid proofs of age is obtainable, and only in such case, the person issuing employment permits may accept, in lieu thereof, a record of age as given on the register of the school which the child first attended in the commonwealth; provided, that such record was kept for at least 2 years during the time when such child attended school.

(e) If none of the aforesaid proofs of age is obtainable, and only in such case, the person issuing employment permits may receive the signed statement of the school healthcare provider, or of the healthcare provider appointed by the school committee, stating that after examination it is the opinion of such healthcare provider that the child is at least of the age required for the issuance of the permit. Such healthcare provider statement shall be accompanied by a statement signed by the child's parent, guardian or custodian, or, if such child has no parent, guardian or custodian, by the signed statement of the next adult friend. Such signed statement shall contain the name, date and place of birth and residence of the child, and shall certify that the parent, guardian, custodian or next adult friend signing it is unable to produce any of the proofs of age specified in this section. The person issuing employment permits may, before issuing such a permit, require the parent, guardian, custodian or next adult friend of the child to appear and approve in writing the issuance of such permit.

No superintendent of schools, school committee or other person authorized to receive, examine, approve and file evidence of age, shall retain, against the will of such child or the child's parent or guardian, such evidence of age, for a longer time than is reasonably necessary for making a copy, photostat or reasonable facsimile thereof, which shall be filed in place of the original and the original shall be returned to such child, and the child's parent or guardian. A certificate relating to the age or

place of birth of any child or to any other fact sought to be established in relation to school attendance shall be issued, upon request, by a town clerk, and no fee shall be charged therefor by a town clerk or other official.

After an employer makes an offer of employment, the following shall be documented: a pledge or promise, signed by the prospective employee and the child's parent or guardian, and, signed by the employer or by an authorized manager or superintendent, setting forth the character of the specific employment, the number of hours per day during which the child is to be regularly employed and the name and address of the employer, in which pledge or promise the employer agrees to employ the child in accordance with this chapter which is summarized on the pledge or promise form.

After an employer has made an offer of employment and completed the pledge or promise required in this section, the employment permit will be issued. This permit shall be accessible electronically by the child, the child's parent or guardian, the child's school, the department of elementary and secondary education, the department of labor standards and the office of the attorney general.

The superintendent of schools, the youth work permit coordinator or a person authorized by them in writing may revoke for cause the permit for employment of any child, except those employed in private domestic service by a member of the child's immediate family, or service as a farm laborer in the employ of the child's parent or legal guardian. Whenever such a permit authorizing employment of a child elsewhere than in their place of residence is held by them, the superintendent of schools or youth work permit coordinator of the town of their employment shall forthwith notify the superintendent of schools or youth work permit coordinator issuing the permit of the child's failure to comply with any pertinent provision of law.

All documents related to this section may be provided, generated, approved and signed in an electronic format approved by the department of labor standards.

Section 88. The school record required by section 87 shall be provided by the principal or teacher in charge of the school which the child last attended, and shall be furnished only to a child who, after due examination and investigation, is found to be entitled thereto. Said school record shall state: (i) the grade last completed by such child; (ii) the number of days during which such child has attended school during the 12 months next preceding the time of application for said school record and (iii) the name, date of birth and the residence of the child as shown on the records of the school and the name of the parent, guardian or custodian. If the school record is not obtainable from the school which such child last attended, this school record requirement may be waived by the youth work permit coordinator.

No such school record shall be issued or accepted and no employment permit granted unless the child possesses the educational qualifications described in section 1 of chapter 76; provided, that a child over 14 years of age who does not possess such qualifications may be granted a limited employment permit good only during hours when school is not in session.

No such school record shall be issued or accepted unless the child has attended the public or other lawfully approved schools for not less than 130 days after reaching the age of 13; provided, that the school record may be accepted in the case of a person who has been an attendant at a public day or other lawfully approved school for a period of not less than 7 years, if in the opinion of the superintendent of schools such person is mentally incapable of acquiring the educational qualifications herein prescribed; and provided, further, that the superintendent may suspend this requirement in any case when in their opinion the interests of the child will best be served thereby.

All documents related to this section may be provided, generated, approved and signed in an electronic format approved by the department of labor standards.

Section 89. The employment permit required under this chapter shall be in a manner prescribed by the department of labor standards, and shall contain the information deemed necessary by the department of labor standards, in coordination with the attorney general's office. It shall certify that the child named in such permit has been found to possess the educational qualifications described in section 1 of chapter 76, except in the case of a limited permit, and that all the papers required by section 87 have been duly examined, approved and filed and that all the conditions and requirements for issuing an employment permit have been fulfilled. It shall state the grade last completed by said child. Every such permit shall be signed by the child in whose name the permit is issued. The permit shall state the name of the employer for whom, and the nature of the employment in which, the permit authorizes the child to be employed. The permits shall bear a number, show the date of its issue and be signed by the person issuing it. No fee shall be exacted by a town clerk or other official for an employment permit or for any paper required by sections 87 to 95, inclusive. No duplicate employment permit shall be issued until it shall appear to the satisfaction of the person authorized to issue permits that the original has been lost. A record giving all the facts contained on every employment permit issued shall be maintained together with the documents required under section 87. A record shall also be kept of the names and addresses of all children to whom permits have been refused, together with the names of the schools which said children should attend and the reasons for refusal. Each of the aforesaid records and papers shall be preserved until such children, if living, have reached the age of 18. Such records and statistics concerning the issuance of employment permits as may be prescribed by the department of elementary and secondary education shall be kept and shall be open to the inspection of said department, its officers or agents. The blank permits and other papers required in connection with the issuing of employment permits and educational certificates under this chapter shall be furnished to the local school committees by the department of labor standards, by which they shall be prepared after conference with the department of elementary and secondary education and the approval of the forms thereof by the attorney general. Said permits, certificates and documents may bear explanatory matter necessary to facilitate the enforcement of this chapter or to comply with future legislative requirements.

All documents related to this section may be provided, generated, approved and signed in an electronic format approved by the department of labor standards.

*Summary:*

This section updates and streamlines the statutory requirements for issuing youth employment permits.

### **Section 64 - Owner's Representative 3**

SECTION 64. Section 15½ of chapter 149A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2024 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 15, the figure "\$50,000,000" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- \$100,000,000.

*Summary:*

This section, together with related sections, increases the threshold for contracts requiring an owner's representative in transportation projects from \$50,000,000 to \$100,000,000 and removes the requirement that an owner's representative be a professional engineer.

### **Section 65 - Owner's Representative 4**

SECTION 65. Said section 15½ of said chapter 149A, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by striking out the definitions of "Oversight cost estimate" and "Owner's representative" and inserting in place thereof the following 2 definitions:-

"Oversight cost estimate", an estimate developed by the commonwealth or any agency thereof, prior to the engagement of an owner's representative, of the anticipated total cost of the services of that representative.

"Owner's representative", an individual who has not less than 5 years of experience in the construction and supervision of construction of the type which is the subject of the pertinent major contract in nature, scope and complexity.

*Summary:*

This section, together with related sections, increases the threshold for contracts requiring an owner's representative in transportation projects from \$50,000,000 to \$100,000,000 and removes the requirement that an owner's representative be a professional engineer.

## **Section 66 - Workforce Productivity Fund 1**

SECTION 66. Subsection (a) of section 7 of chapter 175M of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2024 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 6, the words "and for the administration of the department", and inserting in place thereof the following words:- for the administration of the department and for expenditure by the Workforce Productivity Sub-Fund under section 12.

*Summary:*

This section, together with related sections, establishes the Workforce Productivity Sub-Fund within the Family and Employment Security Trust Fund to provide grants to assist small businesses manage workforce needs related to employees taking paid family or medical leave.

## **Section 67 - Workforce Productivity Fund 2**

SECTION 67. Said chapter 175M of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the following section:-

Section 12. (a) For the purposes of this section, the term "eligible applicant" shall mean an employer employing 50 or fewer employers in the commonwealth; provided that "eligible applicant" shall not include an employer with a plan approved pursuant to section 11.

There shall be a sub-fund within the Family and Employment Security Trust Fund called the Workforce Productivity Sub-Fund, which shall be expended by the director for purposes of administration of this section.

(b) There shall be a grant program to support eligible applicants with: (i) costs associated with covering a temporary vacancy due to an employee being on an approved continuous leave or (ii) other purposes as determined by the director. Eligible applicants may apply for a grant pursuant to this section in a form and manner prescribed by the department. Determinations related to grants issued pursuant to this section shall be at the sole discretion of the department.

(c) The director may promulgate regulations or other guidance necessary for the implementation of this section, including, but not limited to, grant eligibility criteria.

***Summary:***

This section, together with related sections, establishes the Workforce Productivity Sub-Fund within the Family and Employment Security Trust Fund to provide grants to assist small businesses manage workforce needs related to employees taking paid family or medical leave.

## **Section 68 - Driver's License Non-renewals 18**

SECTION 68. Subsection (h) of section 2A of chapter 211D, as appearing in the 2024 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out the last sentence.

***Summary:***

This section, together with related sections, eliminates the practice of imposing driver's license non-renewals and motor vehicle registration non-renewals for certain unpaid debts and provides for an alternative enforcement mechanism.

## **Section 69 - DNA Exception to Statute of Limitations 2**

SECTION 69. Section 63 of chapter 277 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2024 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the first paragraph the following paragraph:-

Notwithstanding the above, an indictment or complaint for an offense set forth in sections 22, 22A, 22B, 22C, 22D, 23, 23A or 23B of chapter 265 may be found and filed at any time after the date of the commission of such offense if the identity of the person who allegedly committed the offense: (1) was identified after the limitation period set forth in this section; and (2) the identity has been established through a DNA analysis, as defined in section 1 of chapter 22E, using evidence collected at the time of the commission of the offense.

***Summary:***

This section, together with its related section, requires that all sexual assault rape kits shall be stored for a minimum of 15 years and provides an exception to the 15-year statute of limitations in instances where DNA technology has identified a match.

## **Section 70 - Employment Bridge Payment 1**

SECTION 70. Section 110 of chapter 5 of the acts of 1995 is hereby amended by striking out subsection (d), as appearing in section 55 of chapter 154 of the acts of 2018, and inserting in place thereof the following subsection:-

(d) An earnings disregard of 50 per cent of earned income shall be provided to both exempt and non-exempt families, subject to subsection (g), after work-related expenses but before dependent care deductions.

***Summary:***

This section, together with its related section, amends the employment bridge payment to an amount equivalent to benefits subject to a 50% disregard.

## **Section 71 - Employment Bridge Payment 2**

SECTION 71. Said section 110 of said chapter 5, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by adding the following subsection:-

(n) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, when the department closes a family's transitional aid to families with dependent children case because such family earned income that exceeds the payment standard, and such family's income is less than 200 per cent of the federal poverty level for such family's household size, the department shall pay the family, in equal installments over a 4 month period, the equivalent of 6 months of the full payment standard of transitional aid to families with dependent children benefits for such family's household size at the time of case closure. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, and to the maximum extent permitted by federal law, any payment pursuant to this subsection shall not be considered income for the purpose of determining: (i) such recipient's eligibility for any benefit or service offered or administered by the commonwealth, or (ii) the extent of any such benefit or service to be received by such recipient.

*Summary:*

This section, together with its related section, amends the employment bridge payment to an amount equivalent to benefits subject to a 50% disregard.

## **Section 72 - Alternative Housing Voucher Program**

SECTION 72. Chapter 179 of the acts of 1995, as amended by section 64 of chapter 150 of the acts of 2024, is hereby amended by striking out section 16 and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

Section 16. The executive office of housing and livable communities, hereinafter referred to as EOHL, shall, subject to appropriation, establish and administer an alternative housing voucher program in the form of either mobile vouchers or project-based vouchers for eligible and qualified low-income persons with a disability as determined pursuant to EOHL regulations.

To be eligible for the alternative housing voucher program, an applicant shall: (i) be a low-income person with a disability, as determined by EOHL and (ii) comply with all applicable EOHL program eligibility regulations.

The executive office of housing and livable communities shall promulgate regulations and may issue guidelines or guidance materials, as it deems necessary, to administer the alternative housing voucher program. Such regulations, guidelines or guidance may include, but not be limited to: (i) income and asset requirements for applicant eligibility; (ii) requirements for program participants to pay a percentage of their income toward rent; (iii) methods for calculating payment standards and subsidy amounts and exemptions to payment standards deemed necessary by the executive office; (iv) administering the program through administrative agencies, which may include local and regional housing authorities and non-profit organizations and (v) conditions for program participation and termination.

Nothing stated herein shall give rise to enforceable legal rights in any party or an enforceable entitlement to any form of housing and further, nothing stated herein shall be construed as giving rise to such enforceable legal rights or such enforceable entitlement.

*Summary:*

This section amends the Alternative Housing Voucher Program standards to better align the program with the Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program.

## **Section 73 - Extending the Connector Care Expansion Pilot 1**

SECTION 73. Section 81 of chapter 28 of the acts of 2023, as amended by section 96 of chapter 9 of the acts of 2025, is hereby amended by striking out the word "3-year" each time it appears and inserting in place thereof the following word:- 4-year.

*Summary:*

This section, together with related sections, extends the Connector Care Expansion Pilot for 1 additional year.

## **Section 74 - Extending the Connector Care Expansion Pilot 2**

SECTION 74. Section 114 of said chapter 28, as amended by section 98 of said chapter 9, is hereby amended by striking out the figure "2027" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- 2028.

*Summary:*

This section, together with related sections, extends the Connector Care Expansion Pilot for 1 additional year.

## **Section 75 - Transfers Between Health Funds Clarification**

SECTION 75. Chapter 9 of the acts of 2025 is hereby amended by striking out section 129 and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

Section 129. Notwithstanding section 189 of chapter 149 of the General Laws, the comptroller, at the direction of the secretary of administration and finance, may transfer up to \$15,000,000 of employer medical assistance contributions from the Commonwealth Care Trust Fund established in section 2000 of chapter 29 of the General Laws to the Health Safety Net Trust Fund established in section 66 of chapter 118E of the General Laws; provided, however, that this transfer may be in addition to any other transfers from said Commonwealth Care Trust Fund to said Health Safety Net Trust Fund required in fiscal year 2026.

*Summary:*

This section clarifies that in Fiscal Year 2026, a transfer of up to \$15 million from the Commonwealth Care Trust Fund to the Health Safety Net Trust Fund may be made in addition to any other transfers from said Commonwealth Care Trust Fund to said Health Safety Net Trust Fund required in Fiscal Year 2026.

## **Section 76 - Extending the Connector Care Expansion Pilot 3**

SECTION 76. Notwithstanding section 2000 of chapter 29 of the General Laws, or any other special or general law to the contrary, in fiscal year 2027, the comptroller, at the direction of the secretary of administration and finance, may transfer to the Commonwealth Care Trust Fund, established under said section 2000 of said chapter 29, an amount not to exceed the amount equal to the cost of the fourth year of the pilot program established by section 81 of chapter 28 of the acts of

2023 from funds attributable to the federal financial participation received by the commonwealth for designated state health program expenditure.

*Summary:*

This section, together with related sections, extends the Connector Care Expansion Pilot for 1 additional year.

## **Section 77 - Progressive Design Build Pilot Program**

**SECTION 77.** (a) For the purposes of this section, unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the following words shall have the following meanings:

"Progressive design build", a construction project delivery system for a public works or building project that provides responsibility for the delivery of design services and construction services within a single contract, but wherein the design build entity is procured using a qualifications based or best value selection process to provide preconstruction services and preliminary design and a fixed price is negotiated for final design and construction services.

"Request for proposals" or "RFP", the document issued by an awarding authority to solicit proposals from pre-qualified design build entities for the purpose of entering into a progressive design build contract.

(b) Notwithstanding the requirements of section 39M of chapter 30 of the General Laws, chapter 149 of the General Laws, chapter 149A of the General Laws or any other general or special law to the contrary, the Massachusetts Department of Transportation and the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority are hereby authorized to establish and may implement a progressive design build project delivery method for certain public works and certain building projects, that are sufficiently extensive in size, complexity and duration, namely the (i) Allston Multimodal Project; (ii) Beverly-Salem Bridge Replacement Project; (iii) Bourne Bridge Replacement; (iv) Canton-Dedham-Norwood Interchange Improvements; (v) Fairhaven-New Bedford Bridge Replacement; (vi) Interstate Bridge and Highway Rebuild/Rehabilitation; (vii) Longmeadow Bridge Project; (viii) Sagamore Bridge Replacement; (ix) Somerville McGrath Boulevard Project; (x) Storrow Drive Tunnel Project; (xi) Woburn-Reading-Stoneham-Wakefield Interchange Improvements; (xii) MBTA Power and Energy System Upgrade; (xiii) MBTA Rail Modernization and (xiv) MBTA Station Modernization.

(1) All construction employees employed in the construction of each of the specified programs named in subsection (b) shall be paid not less than the wage rate established for the work pursuant to a project labor agreement with the appropriate labor organization that shall include: (i) a uniform grievance and arbitration procedure for the resolution of work-related disputes on job sites; (ii) mutually agreeable uniform work rules and schedules for the project; (iii) an obligation for any labor organization and its constituent members not to strike with respect to work on the project; (iv) participation goals of minority, veteran and women workers to be employed on each contract and the processes and procedures to ensure compliance with those workforce participation goals, including, but not limited to, a requirement to employ a sufficient number of apprentices to allow for the training and employment of individuals who would not otherwise qualify for employment on the project, the establishment of an access, inclusion and diversity committee and the reporting and enforcement requirements of paragraph (G) of subsection 2 of section 44A of said chapter 149 and (v) an agreement to facilitate the entry of interested veterans into the building and construction trades by designating an entity or organization to serve as a resource for preliminary orientation, apprenticeship programs and other needs, as mutually agreeable, to foster veteran employment opportunities.

(2) There shall be no precondition to the award of a contract that a bidder has previously entered into a collective bargaining agreement with a labor organization but only that the bidder be willing to execute and comply with said project labor agreement for the designated project if it is awarded a contract for such designated project.

(3) Progressive design build projects shall be procured in accordance with sections 14 through 21, inclusive, of chapter 149A of the General Laws and shall be advertised within 5 years of the enactment of this section.

(4) Pursuant to this section, the awarding authority may evaluate and select progressive design build project proposals on either a qualifications based or best-value basis. If the awarding authority evaluates proposals using qualifications based as the basis for making such evaluation, it shall do so using the process outlined in clause (i). If the awarding authority evaluates proposals using best value as the basis for making such evaluation, it shall do so using the process outlined in clause (ii).

(i) If the basis of the award is qualifications based, then each proposal must be sealed by the proposer and submitted to the awarding authority as 1 complete package.

The awarding authority shall establish a selection committee that shall open, evaluate and score each proposal from proposers based on the quality criteria contained in the RFP. The evaluation and ranking of proposals shall be in accordance with the quality criteria and relative weights assigned or identified in the RFP. Each proposal shall remain confidential.

The awarding authority shall enter into good faith negotiations of the design build contract with the responsible proposer that submits the most highly rated proposal.

(ii) If the basis of the award is best value, then each proposal shall be submitted by the proposer to the awarding authority in 2 separate proposals, which shall include a sealed technical proposal and a sealed price proposal. The sealed technical proposal and sealed price proposal shall be submitted simultaneously.

The awarding authority shall establish a selection committee that shall first open, evaluate and score each technical proposal from proposers based on the quality criteria contained in the RFP. The evaluation and ranking of proposals shall be in accordance with the quality criteria and relative weights assigned or identified in the RFP. During this evaluation process, the price proposals shall remain sealed. Each technical proposal shall remain confidential.

After completion of the evaluation of the technical proposals, the selection committee shall open and evaluate each price proposal from responsible proposers based on the evaluation procedure contained in the RFP. Each price proposal shall remain confidential.

(5) Upon the completion of successful negotiations with the selected design build entity, the awarding authority shall enter into a design build contract with said entity. After signing a design build contract, the awarding authority shall notify in writing all other design build entities that their proposals were not accepted.

(6) Except for section 39M of chapter 30 of the General Laws, all other provisions of the public bidding laws, including sections 39F, 39G, 39J, 39N, 39O, 39P and 39R of said chapter 30 and sections 26, 27, 27A, 27B, 27C, 27D, 29, 29C and 34A of said chapter 149, shall apply to all progressive design build public works projects procured pursuant to this section in the same manner as they apply to public works projects generally procured pursuant to said section 39M of said chapter 30, and except for sections 44A to 44H of said chapter 149, all other provisions of the public bidding laws, including said sections 39F, 39K, 39J, 39N, 39O, 39P and 39R of said chapter 30 and said sections 26, 27, 27A, 27B, 27C, 27D, 29, 29C, 34A and 44E of said chapter 149 shall apply to all progressive design

build building projects procured pursuant to this section in the same manner as they apply to building projects generally procured pursuant to said sections 44A to 44H of said chapter 149.

(7) To the extent that the department or authority are required to obtain approvals from the federal government for any requirement contained in paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (b) in order to secure federal funding for any progressive design build project, the requirements shall be subject to such federal approvals.

*Summary:*

This section establishes a progressive design build project delivery method pilot program for 14 projects identified by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation and the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority.

### **Section 78 - MassHealth and Health Safety Net Dental Services**

SECTION 78. Notwithstanding section 53 of chapter 118E of the General Laws and any other general or special law to the contrary, beginning in fiscal year 2027, the executive office of health and human services may determine the extent to which to include within its covered services for adults the federally-optional dental services that were included in its state plan or demonstration program in effect on January 1, 2002 and the dental services that were covered for adults in the MassHealth basic program as of January 1, 2002; provided further, that notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, beginning in fiscal year 2027, the executive office of health and human services may impose coverage caps, changes, exclusions or limitations on its coverage of dental services for adults on a per patient basis or in aggregate; provided further, that notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, beginning in fiscal year 2027, the health safety net office established pursuant to section 66 of chapter 118E of the General Laws may impose caps, changes, exclusions or limitations on its total payments for dental services for adults on a per patient basis or in aggregate.

*Summary:*

This section permits MassHealth to set coverage limits on dental services provided to MassHealth members and Health Safety Net patients.

### **Section 79 - Health Safety Net Trust Fund Transfer to Department of Public Health for HIV Drug Assistance Program 1**

SECTION 79. For the purposes of this section, "HDAP" shall mean the HIV Drug Assistance Program, established under the department of public health and funded in line item 4512-0106 of section 2 of chapter 9 of the acts of 2025.

Notwithstanding section 66 of chapter 118E of the General Laws or any other general or special law to the contrary, in Health Safety Net fiscal year 2026, the comptroller, at the direction of the secretary of administration and finance, and in consultation with the secretary of health and human services, may transfer to the department of public health or expend an amount not more than the amount required from the Health Safety Net Trust Fund, established in section 66 of chapter 118E of the General Laws, for services rendered to Health Safety Net patients participating in HDAP and any reasonable administrative costs associated with paying for services to such patients.

Notwithstanding any other general or special law to the contrary, the department of public health shall use any funds transferred or expended for HDAP from said Health Safety Net Trust Fund in Health Safety Net fiscal year 2026 exclusively for services rendered to Health Safety Net patients

participating in HDAP and any reasonable administrative costs associated with paying for services to such patients.

*Summary:*

This section, together with its related section, allows the transfer of funding from the Health Safety Net Trust Fund to the Department of Public Health in an amount sufficient to cover the cost of the administration of the HIV Drug Assistance Program for Health Safety Net patients in Health Safety Net Fiscal Year 2026.

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## **Section 80 - Health Safety Net Trust Fund Transfer to Department of Public Health for HIV Drug Assistance Program 2**

SECTION 80. For the purposes of this section, "HDAP" shall mean the HIV Drug Assistance Program, established under the department of public health and funded in line item 4512-0106 of section 2 of this act.

Notwithstanding section 66 of chapter 118E of the General Laws or any other general or special law to the contrary, in Health Safety Net fiscal year 2027, the comptroller, at the direction of the secretary of administration and finance, and in consultation with the secretary of health and human services, may transfer to the department of public health or expend an amount not more than the amount required from the Health Safety Net Trust Fund, established in section 66 of chapter 118E of the General Laws, for services rendered to Health Safety Net patients participating in HDAP and any reasonable administrative costs associated with paying for services to such patients.

Notwithstanding any other general or special law to the contrary, the department of public health shall use all funds transferred or expended from said Health Safety Net Trust Fund in Health Safety Net fiscal year 2027 exclusively for services rendered to Health Safety Net patients participating in HDAP and any reasonable administrative costs associated with paying for services to such patients.

*Summary:*

This section, together with its related section, allows the transfer of funding from the Health Safety Net Trust Fund to the Department of Public Health in an amount sufficient to cover the cost of the administration of the HIV Drug Assistance Program for Health Safety Net patients in Health Safety Net Fiscal Year 2027.

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## **Section 81 - Transfers Between Health Funds**

SECTION 81. Notwithstanding section 189 of chapter 149 of the General Laws, the comptroller, at the direction of the secretary of administration and finance, may transfer up to \$15,000,000 of employer medical assistance contributions from the Commonwealth Care Trust Fund established in section 2000 of chapter 29 of the General Laws to the Health Safety Net Trust Fund established in section 66 of chapter 118E of the General Laws; provided, however, that this transfer may be in addition to any other transfers from said Commonwealth Care Trust Fund to said Health Safety Net Trust Fund required in fiscal year 2027.

*Summary:*

This section authorizes the Secretary of Administration and Finance to transfer up to \$15 million from the Commonwealth Care Trust Fund to the Health Safety Net Trust Fund.

## **Section 82 - Expanded Medicare Savings Program Transfer**

SECTION 82. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the comptroller, at the direction of the secretary of administration and finance, in consultation with the secretary of health and human services, may transfer from the prescription advantage program in item 9110-1455 of section 2 and the Health Safety Net Trust Fund established in section 66 of chapter 118E of the General Laws in fiscal year 2027, the amount necessary to support the Medicare Saving or Medicare Buy-In programs established in section 25A of said chapter 118E; provided, however, that the secretary of health and human services shall certify to the senate and house committees on ways and means, not less than 15 days in advance of the transfer, in writing, the amount to be transferred and an explanation of the amount of expected savings to those programs resulting from the transfer.

*Summary:*

This section authorizes the transfer of funds from the Prescription Advantage programs and the Health Safety Net Trust Fund in order to fund the non-federal share of the Medicare Savings Program.

## **Section 83 - Health Safety Net Administration**

SECTION 83. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, payments from the Health Safety Net Trust Fund established in section 66 of chapter 118E of the General Laws may be made either as safety net care payments under the commonwealth's waiver pursuant to section 1115 of the federal Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. 1315, or as an adjustment to service rate payments under Title XIX and XXI of the Social Security Act or a combination of both; provided further that other federally permissible funding mechanisms available for certain hospitals, as defined by regulations of the executive office of health and human services, may be used to reimburse up to \$70,000,000 of uncompensated care pursuant to sections 66 and 69 of said chapter 118E using sources distinct from the funding made available to the Health Safety Net Trust Fund.

*Summary:*

This section allows Health Safety Net payments to be made as an 1115 waiver or state plan payments and authorizes up to \$70 million of uncompensated care to be paid from sources other than the Health Safety Net Trust Fund.

## **Section 84 - Initial Gross Payments to Qualifying Acute Care Hospitals**

SECTION 84. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, not later than October 1, 2026 and without further appropriation, the comptroller shall transfer from the General Fund to the Health Safety Net Trust Fund established in section 66 of chapter 118E of the General Laws the greater of \$45,000,000 or 1/12 of the total expenditures to hospitals and community health centers required pursuant to this act, for the purposes of making initial gross payments to qualifying acute care hospitals for the hospital fiscal year beginning October 1, 2026. These payments shall be made to hospitals before, and in anticipation of, the payment by hospitals of their gross liability to the Health Safety Net Trust Fund. The comptroller shall transfer from the Health Safety Net Trust Fund to the General Fund, not later than June 30, 2027, the amount of the transfer authorized by this section and any allocation of that amount as certified by the director of the health safety net office.

***Summary:***

This section requires the Comptroller to transfer sufficient money from the General Fund to the Health Safety Net Trust Fund to make the required initial gross payment to qualifying hospitals. It requires the Health Safety Net Trust Fund to repay the General Fund before the end of Fiscal Year 2027.

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### **Section 85 - Inspector General's Health Care Audits**

SECTION 85. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, in hospital fiscal year 2027, the office of inspector general may expend a total of \$1,000,000 from the Health Safety Net Trust Fund established in section 66 of chapter 118E of the General Laws for costs associated with maintaining a health safety net audit unit within the office. The unit shall continue to oversee and examine the practices in hospitals, including, but not limited to, the care of the uninsured and the resulting free charges. The unit shall also study and review the Medicaid program under said chapter 118E, including, but not limited to, a review of the program's eligibility requirements, utilization, claims administration and compliance with federal mandates. The inspector general shall submit a report to the chairs of the senate and house committees on ways and means on the results of the audits and any other completed analyses not later than March 1, 2027.

***Summary:***

This section authorizes the Inspector General's Office to conduct audits of the Health Safety Net and the MassHealth program, at a cost of \$1 million for Fiscal Year 2027 which will, as in past years, be borne by the Health Safety Net Trust Fund.

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### **Section 86 - Nursing Facility Base Year**

SECTION 86. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, nursing facility rates to be effective on October 1, 2026, under section 13D of chapter 118E of the General Laws may be developed using the costs of calendar year 2023.

***Summary:***

This section allows the Executive Office of Health and Human Services to use Calendar Year 2023 costs to develop nursing facility rates.

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### **Section 87 - Fiscal Year 2027 Regional Transit Authority Funding Formula**

SECTION 87. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, for fiscal year 2027, \$123,500,000 shall be considered operating assistance and distributed to regional transit authorities from item 1595-6370 of section 2E and item 1596-2406 of section 2F. For fiscal year 2027, \$94,000,000 of the amount transferred in item 1595-6370 shall be distributed based on fiscal year 2026 distributions in accordance with the updated fiscal year 2026 bilateral memorandum of understanding between each regional transit authority and the Massachusetts Department of Transportation; provided, however, that each regional transit authority shall receive operating assistance from said item 1595-6370 of said section 2E of not less than the amount received in fiscal year 2026.

The department may require each regional transit authority to provide data on ridership, customer service and satisfaction, asset management and financial performance, including farebox recovery, and shall compile any such collected data into a report on the performance of regional transit

authorities and detail each authority's progress towards meeting the performance metrics established in each memorandum of understanding.

*Summary:*

This section sets forth the Fiscal Year 2027 funding distribution for Regional Transit Authorities.

### **Section 88 - Gaming Fund Splits**

SECTION 88. Notwithstanding section 59 of chapter 23K of the General Laws or any other general or special law to the contrary, 100 per cent of the revenue received from a category 1 licensee, as defined in section 2 of said chapter 23K, pursuant to subsection (a) of section 55 of said chapter 23K, in fiscal year 2027 shall be transferred as follows:

- (i) 35 per cent to the Gaming Local Aid Fund established in section 63 of said chapter 23K;
- (ii) 20 per cent to the Commonwealth Transportation Fund established in section 2ZZZ of chapter 29 of the General Laws;
- (iii) 20 per cent to the Education Fund established in section 64 of said chapter 23K;
- (iv) 13 per cent to the Gaming Economic Development Fund established in section 2DDDD of said chapter 29;
- (v) 5 per cent to the Public Health Trust Fund established in section 58 of said chapter 23K;
- (vi) 3 per cent to the Community Mitigation Fund established in section 61 of said chapter 23K;
- (vii) 2 per cent to the Massachusetts Cultural and Performing Arts Mitigation Trust Fund established in section 2HHHHH of said chapter 29; and
- (viii) 2 per cent to the Massachusetts Tourism Trust Fund to fund tourist promotion agencies under subsection (b) of section 13T of chapter 23A of the General Laws.

*Summary:*

This section amends the distribution of gaming funds for Fiscal Year 2027.

### **Section 89 - Excess Capital Gains Distribution**

SECTION 89. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, for fiscal year 2027, 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) 53.1 per cent to the State Retiree Benefits Trust Fund established in section 24 of chapter 32A of the General Laws; (ii) 39.1 per cent to the Commonwealth Stabilization Fund established in section 2H of chapter 29 of the General Laws and (iii) 7.8 per cent to the Disaster Relief and Resiliency Fund established in section 2HHHHHH of said chapter 29.

*Summary:*

This section amends the distribution of excess capital gains income for Fiscal Year 2027.

### **Section 90 - Massachusetts Life Sciences Center**

SECTION 90. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, prior to transferring the consolidated net surplus pursuant to section 5C of chapter 29 of the General Laws, the comptroller shall transfer \$10,000,000 to the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center established in section 3 of chapter 23I of the General Laws.

***Summary:***

This section transfers \$10,000,000 of consolidated net surplus to the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center in Fiscal Year 2027.

### **Section 91 - Pension Cost of Living Adjustment**

SECTION 91. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the amounts transferred pursuant to subdivision (1) of section 22C of chapter 32 of the General Laws shall be made available for the Commonwealth's Pension Liability Fund established in section 22 of said chapter 32. The amounts transferred pursuant to said subdivision (1) of said section 22C of said chapter 32 shall meet the commonwealth's obligations pursuant to said section 22C of said chapter 32, including retirement benefits payable by the state employees' retirement system and the state teachers' retirement system, for the costs associated with a 3 per cent cost-of-living adjustment pursuant to section 102 of said chapter 32, for the reimbursement of local retirement systems for previously authorized cost-of-living adjustments pursuant to said section 102 of said chapter 32 and for the costs of increased survivor benefits pursuant to chapter 389 of the acts of 1984. The state board of retirement and each city, town, county and district shall verify these costs, subject to rules that shall be adopted by the state treasurer. The state treasurer may make payments upon a transfer of funds to reimburse certain cities and towns for pensions of retired teachers, including any other obligation that the commonwealth has assumed on behalf of a retirement system other than the state employees' retirement system or state teachers' retirement system, including the commonwealth's share of the amounts to be transferred pursuant to section 22B of said chapter 32. The payments under this section shall be made only pursuant to distribution of money from the Commonwealth's Pension Liability Fund and any distribution, and the payments for which distributions are required, shall be detailed in a written report prepared quarterly by the secretary of administration and finance and submitted to the senate and house committees on ways and means and the joint committee on public service in advance of the distribution. Distributions shall not be made in advance of the date on which a payment is actually to be made. If the amount transferred pursuant to subdivision (1) of section 22C of said chapter 32 exceeds the amount necessary to adequately fund the annual pension obligations, the excess amount shall be credited to the Pension Reserves Investment Trust Fund established in subdivision (8) of said section 22 of said chapter 32 to reduce the unfunded pension liability of the commonwealth.

***Summary:***

This section enables the Commonwealth to fulfill its various obligations to the state retirement system, including the obligation to fund a 3% cost-of-living adjustment on the first \$13,000 of a retiree's annual retirement allowance.

### **Section 92 - Interest Earnings**

SECTION 92. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, for fiscal year 2027, the secretary of administration and finance shall direct the comptroller to take any measures necessary to retain within the General Fund interest earnings that would otherwise be deposited into or otherwise attributed to a fund, trust fund or other separate account, whether established administratively or by law, including a separate account established under section 6 of chapter 6A of the General Laws. The secretary and comptroller shall report to the house and senate committees on ways and means 45 days before any such transfer. The request shall certify that the secretary, in consultation with the comptroller, has determined that the balance, or a specified part of the balance, is not necessary for the purposes for which it was made available.

*Summary:*

This section directs the Comptroller, upon direction from the Secretary of Administration and Finance, to retain or transfer interest in the General Fund which would otherwise be deposited or retained in a different fund, trust fund, or other separate account.

### **Section 93 - Capital Gains Threshold 2**

SECTION 93. Notwithstanding section 5G of chapter 29 of the General Laws, as amended by section 17, the excess capital gains threshold for fiscal year 2027 shall be \$2,250,000.

*Summary:*

This section, together with its related section, updates the excess capital gains threshold.

### **Section 94 - Abandoned Property Transfers**

SECTION 94. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, for fiscal year 2027, all abandoned property net revenue, as defined by section 5H of chapter 29 of the General Laws, shall remain in the General Fund.

*Summary:*

This section provides that all abandoned property net revenue will remain in the General Fund for Fiscal Year 2027.

### **Section 95 - Workforce Productivity Fund 3**

SECTION 95. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, not later than December 31, 2026, the comptroller shall transfer \$1,000,000 into the Workforce Productivity Sub-Fund from the Family and Employment Security Trust Fund established under section 12 of chapter 175M of the General Laws.

*Summary:*

This section, together with related sections, establishes the Workforce Productivity Sub-Fund within the Family and Employment Security Trust Fund to provide grants to assist small businesses manage workforce needs related to employees taking paid family or medical leave.

### **Section 96 - Speed Camera Enforcement 5**

SECTION 96. Not later than 9 months from the effective date of this act, the Massachusetts Department of Transportation shall promulgate regulations to establish the requirements, standards and processes for a city or town's participation in the automated road safety enforcement program. The regulations shall include, but not be limited to: (i) establishing standardized forms for notices of violations and written warnings; (ii) developing uniform signage and distance requirements for the purpose of complying with subsection (a) of section 5 of chapter 90L of the General Laws; (iii) establishing guidance for the calibration and verification of automated road safety camera systems

under subsection (b) of section 6 of said chapter 90L and (iv) establishing provisions for protecting data collected by an automated road safety camera system from unauthorized access.

*Summary:*

This section, together with related sections, authorizes the Massachusetts Department of Transportation to establish a speed camera enforcement program to allow DOT and municipalities to enforce posted speed limits through speed cameras in construction zones and school zones, respectively.

### **Section 97 - Driver's License Non-Renewals 19**

SECTION 97. The commissioner of revenue shall promulgate regulations pursuant to section 5 no later than December 1, 2026.

*Summary:*

This section, together with related sections, eliminates the practice of imposing driver's license non-renewals and motor vehicle registration non-renewals for certain unpaid debts and provides for an alternative enforcement mechanism.

### **Section 98 - Driver's License Non-Renewals 20**

SECTION 98. The registrar of motor vehicles shall remove all applicable active non-renewals and suspensions of a license to drive, a certificate of registration of the registered owner, and a right to operate a motor vehicle within the registry of motor vehicles records pursuant to sections 5, 28, 31 to 45, inclusive, and 68 of this act not more than 3 months after the effective date of this act.

*Summary:*

This section, together with related sections, eliminates the practice of imposing driver's license non-renewals and motor vehicle registration non-renewals for certain unpaid debts and provides for an alternative enforcement mechanism.

### **Section 99 - Driver's License Non-Renewals and Youth Employment Permitting Effective Date**

SECTION 99. Sections 5, 28, 31 to 45, inclusive, 63 and 68 of this act shall take effect 3 months after the effective date of this act.

*Summary:*

This section sets the effective date for the Driver's License Non-Renewals and Youth Employment Permitting provisions.

### **Section 100 - Speed Camera Enforcement Effective Date**

SECTION 100. Sections 4, 29, 30 and 46 shall take effect on July 1, 2027.

*Summary:*

This section establishes an effective date for the Speed Camera Enforcement provisions.

**Section 101 - Employment Bridge Payment Effective Date**

SECTION 101. Sections 70 and 71 shall take effect on October 1, 2026.

*Summary:*

This section establishes an effective date for the Employment Bridge Payment provisions.

**Section 102 - Effective Date**

SECTION 102. Except as otherwise specified, this act shall take effect on July 1, 2026.

*Summary:*

This section provides that this act shall take effect on July 1, 2026.



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