

The Commonwealth of Massachus::tts House of Representatives Late House, Boston 02133-1054

TODD M. SMOLA REPRESENTATIVE

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State Legislature Announces Passage of Spending Bill

BOSTON – Representative Todd M. Smola (R-Warren, Ranking Member, Committee on Ways & Means) joined his colleagues in the State Legislature to pass a \$328 million spending bill to close out the 2015 fiscal year. The proposal must now be approved by the Governor before the end of October.

"We are committed to ensuring that the citizens of Massachusetts have access to the services and programs that they need," said Representative Smola. "This bill provides critical funds for items like substance abuse treatment and MassHealth, while also solidifying our economic future."

The budget bill (H3829) directs millions of dollars towards substance abuse prevention, the Department of Children and Families and pays bills for snow and ice removal from last winter. The bill also contributes \$120 million to the state's "rainy day" fund. In addition to fiscal decisions, H3829 also moves the date of next year's state primary to Thursday, September 8. The date change ensures municipal employees will not need to work over the Labor Day weekend to prepare polling stations.

For additional information please contact Representative Smola at <u>Todd.Smola@mahouse.gov</u> or (617)722-2100.

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