



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
House of Representatives
State House, Boston 02133-1054

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Representative Smola Announces Grants for Local Fire Departments

BOSTON – Representative Todd M. Smola (R-Warren, Ranking Member, Committee on Ways & Means) is pleased to announce that the Brimfield, Palmer, Sturbridge, Wales and Ware Fire Departments have been awarded funding for additional equipment. As part of the F21 Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant Program, Brimfield will receive \$10,000; Palmer will receive \$12,449; Sturbridge will receive \$12,500; Wales will receive \$8,423; and Ware will receive \$12,500.

“The first responders in our community face every imaginable type of danger,” said Representative Smola. “These grants will help them be better protected and demonstrates how grateful we are for their dedicated service.”

This competitive grant program enables fire departments to purchase a variety of equipment that will make firefighters’ jobs safer, including protective firefighting gear, thermal imaging cameras, radios, rescue equipment, and gear washers and dryers. The funding is part of a \$25 million bond bill to support firefighter health and safety over the next five years.

Fire departments in Massachusetts were able to apply to this program for 114 different types of eligible equipment, including personal protective clothing, gear washers and dryers, thermal imaging cameras, assorted hand tools and extrication equipment, communications resources, hazardous gas meters, fitness equipment, and more.

Firefighters face not only the well-known risks of fire, smoke, and hazardous materials, but also long-term health risks of occupational cancer associated with the exposure to fire by-products, and debilitating physical injuries due to the strenuous nature of their work. For additional information please contact Representative Smola at Todd.Smola@mahouse.gov or (617)722-2100.

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