



*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*  
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BRIMFIELD • HOLLAND • PALMER  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Federal Coronavirus Aid Includes Funds for Local Communities**

**BOSTON – Representative Todd M. Smola (R-Warren, Ranking Member, Committee on Ways & Means) is pleased to announce that**

Brimfield \$332,569  
Holland \$220,155  
Palmer \$1,085,256  
Sturbridge \$849,937  
Wales \$167,342  
Ware \$865,013  
Warren \$462,704

The federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (the “CARES Act”) includes funds for Massachusetts governments to use to pay costs incurred in responding to the COVID19 outbreak. The CARES Act authorized \$150 B through the Coronavirus Relief Fund for state and local governments, including \$2.7 B for Massachusetts.

A&F has determined that initially 25% of total federal Coronavirus Relief Fund dollars to the Commonwealth will be directly available for municipalities. Funds have been allocated in proportion to population. At this time, cities and towns are asked to estimate their FY20 COVID-19 expenses. Municipalities who request less than the amount for which they are eligible do not forego the opportunity to ask for additional funds at a later date. This approach is intended to get money out to municipalities quickly, and to allow adjustments over the coming months.

Federal Coronavirus Relief Fund expenditures are subject to audit by an Inspector General within the U.S. Department of the Treasury. Documenting that costs were eligible uses are

essential to managing compliance risk and to minimizing the possibility that the costs are deemed ineligible, thereby requiring that the municipality and the state may need to return funds to the federal government.

First responder costs, Temporary staff to backfill sick or quarantined municipal employees including, Accelerated telework capacity, PPE, including first responders, grocery store employees, gas station attendants and others who interact with public, food inspection, cleaning of public buildings, school distance learning,

Representative Smola noted that the protections contained in the new law are retroactive to March 10 – the day Governor Baker declared a State of Emergency – and will remain in effect until the State of Emergency is lifted.

For additional information please contact Representative Smola at [Todd.Smola@mahouse.gov](mailto:Todd.Smola@mahouse.gov) or (617)722-2100.

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