

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

TODD M. SMOLA REPRESENTATIVE

1ST HAMPDEN DISTRICT

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Representative Smola Appointed to Budget Conference Committee

BOSTON – Representative Todd M. Smola (R-Warren), the Ranking Member of the House Committee on Ways and Means, has been named as one of three House legislators appointed to the conference committee to negotiate differences between the House and Senate versions of the budget. Both the House and Senate recently passed budgets totaling \$38.1 billion for fiscal year 2016. The conference committee will reconcile differences between the two versions.

"The budget is the number one priority of the legislature and every aspect of it is closely examined and deliberated," said Representative Smola. "I am honored to be given this responsibility. I look forward to working on the conference committee to produce a solid budget for the commonwealth. We have a big job to do."

The conference committee will discuss important issues concerning local aid to cities and towns, over site of the MBTA and questions concerning taxation. A final document will go to the House and Senate for a vote and move on to Governor Baker for approval.

"Representative Smola is a valued senior member of our Caucus who has a firm grasp of the fiscal discipline needed to produce a balanced budget that will put the needs of the state's taxpayers and our cities and towns first and foremost." said House Minority Leader Bradley H. Jones, Jr.

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