

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

TODD M. SMOLA REPRESENTATIVE

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Rep. Smola Back Sales Tax Holiday for August 14-15

BOSTON – Representative Todd M. Smola (R-Warren, Ranking Member, Committee on Ways & Means) is pleased to announce that Massachusetts residents will soon be able to enjoy a two-day reprieve from the state sales tax, thanks to the Legislature's approval of a sales tax holiday for mid-August.

"This is great news for Massachusetts," said Representative Smola. "This has been an unbelievably difficult year for local retailers and hopefully this tax incentive will result in a big weekend for sales."

During the sales tax holiday, businesses will be allowed to waive the 6.25 percent state sales tax on most consumer purchases totaling \$2,500 or less. The sales tax will still apply to all telecommunications, tobacco, utilities, motor vehicle, motorboat, and meals purchases, as well as any single item with a price in excess of \$2,500.

Massachusetts first offered a one-day sales tax holiday in 2004 before expanding it to a two-day event the following year. With the exception of 2009, the state has offered a sales tax holiday every summer during the month of August since 2004. This year's sales tax holiday will be the 12th one offered in the past 12 years.

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

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