

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

TODD M. SMOLA REPRESENTATIVE

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Representative Smola Appointed to Budget Conference Committee

BOSTON – Representative Todd M. Smola (R-Warren, Ranking Member, Committee on Ways & 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 state's fiscal 2019 budget. The conferees will negotiate the final version of a roughly \$41 billion annual spending bill.

"This is my fourth consecutive budget conference committee and based on my previous experiences with this process, I am confident that the House and Senate will be able to work together," said Representative Smola. "We are committed to funding programs that are essential to the people of Massachusetts and I look forward to working with my colleagues on the committee."

"Since I first appointed him to the House Ways and Means Committee, Todd has done a tremendous job protecting the interests of the state's taxpayers and acting as a fiscal watchdog against government waste and inefficiency," said House Minority Leader Bradley H. Jones, Jr. (R-North Reading). "As the conference committee works to reconcile the differences between the House and Senate budgets, I am confident he will continue to do everything he can to help produce a fiscally responsible and balanced spending plan."

The conference committee will be led by House Ways and Means Chairman Jeffrey Sanchez and Senate Ways and Means Chairwoman Karen Spilka, who is scheduled to become Senate president later this summer. They will be joined by Rep. Stephen Kulik, Sen. Joan Lovely and Sen. Vinny deMacedo. Lawmakers aim to send the governor their annual budget by June 30, the final day of the fiscal year.

For additional information please contact Representative Smola at $\underline{\text{Todd.Smola@mahouse.gov}}$ or (617)722-2100.

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