



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

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Representative Smola maintains perfect voting record

BOSTON – Representative Todd M. Smola (R-Warren, Ranking Member, Committee on Ways & Means), successfully maintained a perfect voting record during the 2017-2018 legislative session, participating in all 521 roll call votes recorded in the House of Representatives between January 25, 2017 and July 31, 2018.

The Warren legislator cast votes this session on a number of key policy issues, including legislation to expand opioid prevention and treatment options; protect consumers from data security breaches; establish a Municipal Police Training Fund; enhance veterans benefits; and authorize cities and towns to offer a means-tested senior property tax exemption.

Representative Smola also voted to adopt uniform standards and procedures in the House of Representatives for reporting, investigating, and punishing incidents of sexual harassment. The new rules – which apply to all of the House’s elected members, appointed officers, employees and interns – provide for confidentiality and protections against retaliation for individuals who step forward to report violations.

Another key vote recorded by Representative Smola this session was for the passage of the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act, which went into effect on April 1 and requires employers to provide reasonable workplace accommodations for expectant and nursing mothers. He also supported increasing the one-time survivor benefit paid to the families of police, firefighters and other public safety officials killed in the line of duty, which was doubled from \$150,000 to \$300,000 as part of a supplemental budget signed into law in 2017.

Representative Smola also voted to support reimbursing cities and towns for the costs associated with implementing the state’s early voting law. Over \$1 million in reimbursements were delivered to municipalities in March of 2018 to cover the cost of this previously unfunded state mandate.

“Representative Smola continues to be a strong advocate for fiscal responsibility and accountability to the state’s taxpayers, while also championing the needs of his district,” said House Minority Leader Bradley H. Jones, Jr. (R-North Reading). “The residents of the First Hampden District are very fortunate to have him representing them on Beacon Hill.”

“I take my position as a State Representative very seriously,” said Representative Smola. “I was elected to represent the people of our community and it is essential that I am present for every roll call vote in the House in order to be an effective legislator.”

A member of the House of Representatives since 2005, Representative Smola currently serves as the ranking minority member of the Joint Committee on Ways and Means as well as the House Committee on Ways and Means. For additional information please contact Representative Smola at Todd.Smola@mahouse.gov or (617)722-2100.

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