

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 Announces Grants for Holland, Sturbridge and Wales to Support COVID-19 Response

BOSTON – Representative Todd M. Smola (R-Warren, Ranking Member, Committee on Ways & Means) is pleased to announce that the Holland, Sturbridge and Wales Police Departments have been awarded funding for additional resources to aid in preventing, preparing for and responding to the Coronavirus. Holland will receive \$15,365 for overtime, PPE, sanitization services and electronic communications signs; Sturbridge will receive \$50,000 for mobile sign boards and lobby reconfiguration and locking mechanisms at the police station; and Wales will receive \$44,400 for electronic signboards and laptops.

"These grants are well deserved and will help our local police officers as they serve our community under exceptionally challenging circumstances," said Representative Smola. "These upgrades will help them be better protected while on the job."

The grants are part of the federal Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Program (CESFP) and were awarded to local communities by the Massachusetts Office of Public Safety and Security. Eligible cities and towns were invited to apply for funding to benefit their police and/or fire department needs. The funding will assist agencies with outfitting staff with personal protective gear, purchasing deep cleaning sanitation equipment, utilizing video technology to conduct hearings remotely, and obtaining materials to reconfigure office space to enhance social distancing and protect essential workers. Throughout Massachusetts, a total of \$9.6 million in CESFP funding has been allocated to 65 fire departments and 44 police departments representing 94 cities and towns.

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

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