

Conference Committee

An Act making appropriations for fiscal year 2019

Appropriates \$44,954,847,137 in 1205 line items for the fiscal year 2019 annual appropriation act (main budget). This includes \$39,014,139,773 in direct appropriations, \$523,214,735 in chargebacks, \$572,080,285 in reserve accounts, \$562,158,966 in retained revenue, \$566,721,204 in federal grants, and \$1,716,532,174 in operating transfers.\r\rThe outside sections include provisions relative to the Agricultural Preservation Restriction Program, the Alternative Housing Voucher Program Transfer, the Commonwealth Facility Trust for Energy Efficiency, compensation rates for Public Counsel, congestion toll rates, cremation of unclaimed remains, the Dairy Farm Tax Credit increase, the Debt and Long-Term Liability Reduction Trust Fund, the Delivery System Transformation Initiatives Trust Fund, the Department of Elder Affairs sexual orientation discrimination training program, the Earned Income Tax Credit, the Employer Medical Assistance Contribution Hardship Exemption, the Food Safety Modernization Act, gaming revenues, the Health Disparities Council, increasing the cap on work hours for retirees, Juvenile Court Special Findings, language interpreters in educational settings, Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority capital expenses, the Municipal Naloxone Bulk Purchase Trust Fund, nursing facility assessments, the Office of Health Equity, out of state and international drivers, pension cost of living adjustments, regional transit authorities, regulation of compensated tax preparers, sales tax collections, an internal special audit group for the State Police, TAFDC reforms, the Transitional Aid Earnings Disregard, the Transitional Aid Family Cap, trial court transferability, the Underground Storage Tank Fund, and the valuation of aid to parents with dependent children.\r\rControversially, the bill does not include provisions in the Senate which prohibited a law enforcement officer for any state, municipality or local subdivision from acting as an immigration officer, and voided any agreements that allowed for such action. (This was apparently part of the reason that the budget was delayed for 18 days, as the House and Senate struggled to resolve this among other 'policy' issues.)\r\rOutside sections that were included in the House-engrossed bill that did not make the cut include those related to the Antique Automobile Registration Exemption, the Capital Gains over Threshold Statutory Transfer, Civil Motor Vehicle Citation Appeals, Designated DCR MassPark Passes, EOPSS Missing Children Minimum Investigation Standards Guide , provisions on MassDOT outdoor advertising , Sanctuary City Funding, and Supplemental Infrastructure Financing for Transportation.\r\rOutside sections that were included in the Senate-engrossed bill that did not make the cut include those related to border state electronic tolling , charter school funding requirements, the CPCS billable hours cap waiver, the crisis intervention services testimonial privilege, early voting reimbursements, the EMAC supplemental tax credit, the Extractor Bulk Purchase Trust Fund, the fishing partnership health plan, Hepatitis C testing, requirements around Higher Education Board notice of closures and mergers, HPC notice of essential health service closure, the illegal sale of firearm penalties, MassHealth long-term care estate recovery, MassHealth payments for pediatric and specialty acute hospitals, the Motorcycle Safety Fund, MSBA lead piping replacement funding, MSBA school safety guidelines, municipal impact statements, nursing home daily fines, the out-of-state inmate labor prohibition, penalties for prohibited EBT transactions, police jurisdiction on MassPort properties, public higher education university student charges, Race Horse Development Fund transfers, Registry of Deeds fees, required wages for maintenance or cleaning, school and youth safety trust fund funding, State Police sex offender information, college student charge details, and taxable education expenditures.\r\rReport of the Conference Committee, harmonizing the House-engrossed bill (HB4401) and the Senate-engrossed bill (SB2530).