

# **HOUSE . . . . . No. 2783**

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, March 13, 2017.

The committee on Transportation to whom was referred the message from His Excellency the Governor relative to financing improvements to municipal roads and bridges (House, No. 73), reports, in part, recommending that the accompanying bill (House, No. 2783) ought to pass.

For the committee,

WILLIAM M. STRAUS.

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 2783**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court  
(2017-2018)**  
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An Act financing improvements to municipal roads and bridges.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1           SECTION 1. To provide for a program of transportation development and improvements,  
2 the sums set forth in sections 2 and 2A for the several purposes and subject to the conditions  
3 specified in this act, are hereby made available, subject to the laws regulating the disbursement  
4 of public funds. The sums made available in this act shall be in addition to any amounts  
5 previously appropriated or made available for these purposes.

6           SECTION 2.

7                           MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

8   *Highway Division*

9           6122-1720. For the construction and reconstruction of municipal ways as described in  
10 clause (b) of the second paragraph of section 4 of chapter 6C of the General Laws; provided, that  
11 a city or town shall comply with the procedures established by the Massachusetts Department of  
12 Transportation; provided further, that a city or town may expend, without further appropriation,

13 for these projects amounts not in excess of the amount provided to the city or town under this  
14 item upon preliminary notice of such amount, which shall be provided by the department to the  
15 city or town not later than April 1 of each year; and provided further, that the commonwealth  
16 shall reimburse a city or town under this item, subject to the availability of funds as provided in  
17 section 9G of chapter 29 of the General Laws, within 30 days after receipt by the department of a  
18 request for reimbursement from the city or town, which request shall include certification by the  
19 city or town that actual expenses have been incurred on projects eligible for reimbursement  
20 under this item and that the work has been completed to the satisfaction of the city or town  
21 according to the specifications of the project and in compliance with applicable laws and  
22 procedures established by the department ..... \$200,000,000

23 SECTION 2A.

24 EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

25 *Massachusetts Office of Information Technology*

26 1709-3005. For costs associated with planning and studies, the preparation of plans and  
27 specifications, purchase, procurement and implementation of information technology-related  
28 equipment and related projects for the Massachusetts Department of Transportation  
29 ..... \$70,000,000

30 SECTION 3. To meet the expenditures necessary in carrying out section 2, the state  
31 treasurer shall, upon request of the governor, issue and sell bonds of the commonwealth in an  
32 amount to be specified by the governor from time to time but not exceeding, in the aggregate,  
33 \$200,000,000. All bonds issued by the commonwealth as aforesaid shall be designated on their

34 face, Municipal Ways Act of 2017, and shall be issued for a maximum term of years, not  
35 exceeding 30 years, as recommended by the governor in a message to the general court dated  
36 February 16, 2017 under section 3 of Article LXII of the Amendments to the Constitution. All  
37 such bonds shall be payable not later than June 30, 2052, pursuant to said Section 3 of Article  
38 LXII of the Amendments to the Constitution. All interest and payments on account of principal  
39 on these obligations shall be payable from the General Fund. Notwithstanding any other general  
40 or special law to the contrary, bonds issued under this section and interest thereon shall be  
41 general obligations of the commonwealth.

42 SECTION 4. To meet the expenditures necessary in carrying out section 2A, the state  
43 treasurer shall, upon request of the governor, issue and sell bonds of the commonwealth in an  
44 amount to be specified by the governor from time to time but not exceeding, in the aggregate,  
45 \$70,000,000. All bonds issued by the commonwealth as aforesaid shall be designated on their  
46 face, Municipal Ways Act of 2017, and shall be issued for a maximum term of years, not  
47 exceeding 10 years, as recommended by the governor in a message to the general court dated  
48 February 16, 2017 under section 3 of Article LXII of the Amendments to the Constitution. All  
49 such bonds shall be payable not later than June 30, 2032, pursuant to said Section 3 of Article  
50 LXII of the Amendments to the Constitution. All interest and payments on account of principal  
51 on these obligations shall be payable from the Commonwealth Transportation Fund.  
52 Notwithstanding any other general or special law to the contrary, bonds issued under this section  
53 and interest thereon shall be general obligations of the commonwealth.