

HOUSE No. 3648

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two branches, with reference to the Senate amendment (striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text of Senate document numbered 2047, amended in section 2, in line 24, by striking out the word “reimbursement” and inserting in place thereof the word “grants”) of the House Bill providing for the financing of certain improvements to municipal roads and bridges (House, No. 2783, amended), reports recommending passage of the accompanying bill (House, No. 3648) [Bond Issue: \$290,000,000.00]. April 24, 2017.

William M. Straus	Thomas M. McGee
Brian S. Dempsey	
Steven S. Howitt	Donald F. Humason, Jr.

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**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
(2017-2018)**

An Act providing for the financing of certain improvements to municipal roads and bridges.

Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to forthwith finance improvements to the commonwealth’s transportation system, therefore, it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.

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, 2A and 2B 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 grants to municipalities for the construction and reconstruction of
10 municipal ways as described in clause (b) of the second paragraph of section 4 of chapter 6C of

11 the General Laws; provided, that a city or town shall comply with the procedures established by
12 the Massachusetts Department of Transportation; provided further, that a city or town may
13 expend, without further appropriation, for these projects amounts not in excess of the amount
14 provided to the city or town under this item upon preliminary notice of such amount, which shall
15 be provided by the department to the city or town not later than March 1 of each year; and
16 provided further, that the commonwealth shall reimburse a city or town under this item, subject
17 to the availability of funds as provided in section 9G of chapter 29 of the General Laws, within
18 30 days after receipt by the department of a request for reimbursement from the city or town,
19 which request shall include certification by the city or town that actual expenses have been
20 incurred on projects eligible for reimbursement under this item and that the work has been
21 completed to the satisfaction of the city or town according to the specifications of the project and
22 in compliance with applicable laws and procedures established by the department

23\$200,000,000

24 SECTION 2A.

25 MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

26 Rail and Transit Division

27 6622-1787. For the purposes of implementing and supporting the mobility assistance
28 program pursuant to section 13 of chapter 637 of the acts of 1983 that improves transportation
29 for elderly persons and persons with disabilities through vehicle and equipment purchases for
30 regional transit authorities, councils on aging and other transit providers; provided, that not less
31 than \$22,000,000 of the monies authorized herein shall be provided for vehicle and equipment
32 purchases for the mobility assistance program; provided further, that funds may also be expended

33 for regional intercity bus and intermodal services and for programming and technical assistance
34 to regional transit authorities and other transit providers; and provided further, that the rail and
35 transit administrator of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation shall file a report with
36 the clerks of the senate and house of representatives, the chairs of the joint committee on
37 transportation and the chairs of the house and senate committees on bonding, capital
38 expenditures and state assets providing the details for each expenditure of funds from this item
39 for programming and technical assistance not made to regional transit authorities or councils on
40 aging within 90 days of such expenditure.

41\$30,000,000

42 SECTION 2B.

43 EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

44 Massachusetts Office of Information Technology

45 1790-3005. For costs associated with planning and studies, the preparation of plans and
46 specifications, purchase, procurement and implementation of information technology-related
47 equipment and related projects for replacing the core operational system at the registry of motor
48 vehicles.....\$60,000,000

49 SECTION 3. To meet the expenditures necessary in carrying out section 2, the state
50 treasurer shall, upon request of the governor, issue and sell bonds of the commonwealth in an
51 amount to be specified by the governor from time to time but not exceeding, in the aggregate,
52 \$200,000,000. All bonds issued by the commonwealth as aforesaid shall be designated on their
53 face, Municipal Ways Act of 2017, and shall be issued for a maximum term of years, not

54 exceeding 30 years, as recommended by the governor in a message to the general court dated
55 February 16, 2017 under section 3 of Article LXII of the Amendments to the Constitution;
56 provided, however, that all such bonds shall be payable not later than June 30, 2052. All interest
57 and payments on account of principal on these obligations shall be payable from the General
58 Fund. Notwithstanding any other general or special law to the contrary, bonds issued under this
59 section and interest thereon shall be general obligations of the commonwealth.

60 SECTION 4. To meet the expenditures necessary in carrying out section 2A, the state
61 treasurer shall, upon request of the governor, issue and sell bonds of the commonwealth in an
62 amount to be specified by the governor from time to time but not exceeding, in the aggregate,
63 \$30,000,000. All bonds issued by the commonwealth as aforesaid shall be designated on their
64 face, Municipal Ways Act of 2017, and shall be issued for a maximum term of years, not
65 exceeding 20 years, as recommended by the governor in a message to the general court dated
66 February 16, 2017 under section 3 of Article LXII of the Amendments to the Constitution;
67 provided, however, that all such bonds shall be payable not later than June 30, 2042. All interest
68 and payments on account of principal on these obligations shall be payable from the General
69 Fund. Notwithstanding any other general or special law to the contrary, bonds issued under this
70 section and interest thereon shall be general obligations of the commonwealth.

71 SECTION 5. To meet the expenditures necessary in carrying out section 2B, the state
72 treasurer shall, upon request of the governor, issue and sell bonds of the commonwealth in an
73 amount to be specified by the governor from time to time but not exceeding, in the aggregate,
74 \$60,000,000. All bonds issued by the commonwealth as aforesaid shall be designated on their
75 face, Municipal Ways Act of 2017, and shall be issued for a maximum term of years, not
76 exceeding 10 years, as recommended by the governor in a message to the general court dated

77 February 16, 2017 under section 3 of Article LXII of the Amendments to the Constitution;
78 provided, however, that all such bonds shall be payable not later than June 30, 2032. All interest
79 and payments on account of principal on these obligations shall be payable from the
80 Commonwealth Transportation Fund. Notwithstanding any other general or special law to the
81 contrary, bonds issued under this section and interest thereon shall be general obligations of the
82 commonwealth.

83 SECTION 6. The executive office of administration and finance shall review policies
84 relative to the length of time of issued bonds in the commonwealth and shall file a report with
85 recommendations on those policies, including proposals for amending, if any, to the clerks of the
86 senate and house of representatives, chairs of the joint committee on transportation and the chairs
87 of the house and senate committees on bonding, capital expenditures and state assets by
88 November 1, 2017.