

SENATE No. 02146

[Senate, 02/17/2012 – [Enter text]]



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWELVE

[Enter main body text]

SENATE No. 02146

Message from His Excellency the Governor (under the provisions of Section 5 of Article 63 of the Amendments to the Constitution) returning with his disapproval or reduction certain items and sections contained in the engrossed Bill making appropriations for the fiscal year 2012 to provide for supplementing certain existing appropriations and for certain other activities and projects (see Senate, No. 2112).

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE HOUSE • BOSTON 02133
(617) 725-4000

DEVAL L. PATRICK
GOVERNOR

TIMOTHY P. MURRAY
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

[Enter Date]

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives:

February 17, 2012

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives:

Pursuant to Section 5 of Article 63 of the Amendments to the Constitution, I am today signing Senate Bill 2112, “An Act Making Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2012 to Provide for Supplementing Certain Existing Appropriations and for Certain Other Activities and Projects”, while disapproving several items and sections and returning other sections for amendment.

I am pleased to approve the majority of this legislation, which totals \$127.1 million in FY 2012 spending, or \$100.6 million after accounting for offsetting federal revenues. This funding will ensure that adult day health services provided by MassHealth to low-income seniors and persons with disabilities can continue for the remainder of the year. This bill also provides critical home energy assistance to low-income seniors and families who have seen federal aid for this purpose reduced substantially this year. Finally, additional assistance is made available for legal services provided to low-income or vulnerable Massachusetts residents in need of legal representation in a wide range of matters.

In Section 2, I disapprove items 1599-1705 and 1599-1709 because they authorize unaffordable or unnecessary additional funding that exceeds my budget recommendations. I disapprove item Section 28 because of the manner in which it directs funds intended for a municipal grant program.

Because they authorize unaffordable spending by Sheriffs in excess of my budget recommendations, I am also disapproving Sections 36 and 37 and reducing the following items in Section 2 by and to the following amounts:

	Reduce By	Reduce To
8910-0105	200,000	493,920
8910-8200	1,000,109	1,000,109
8910-8300	952,095	952,094
8910-8700	871,879	871,878

I disapprove Section 10, because it exempts retirement board contingency fee agreements from the heightened procurement process regulation that became law under last year's pension reform act. This regulation encourages transparency and promotes an open and fair process to ensure that retirement boards enter into contracts that serve their best interests.

Finally, pursuant to Article LVI, as amended by Article XC, Section 3 of the Amendments to the Constitution, I am also returning for amendment Sections 17, 18, 19, 20, 46 and 55, for reasons set forth in my accompanying letter today.

I approve the remainder of this Act.

Sincerely,

DEVAL L. PATRICK,

Governor.