

SENATE No. 2325

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

—
In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court
(2019-2020)
—

SENATE, August 22, 2019.

The committee on Senate Ways and Means to whom was referred the Senate Bill relative to the Hampshire Council of Governments (Senate, No. 2302), - reports, in part, a "Bill relative to the Hampshire Council of Governments" (Senate, No. 2325).

For the committee,
Michael J. Rodrigues

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(2019-2020)**

An Act relative to the Hampshire Council of Governments.

Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to which are forthwith to make supplemental appropriations for fiscal year 2019 and to make certain changes in law, each of which is immediately necessary to carry out those appropriations or to accomplish other important public purposes, 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 NO SECTION 1.

2 NO SECTION 2.

3 SECTION 2A. To provide for certain unanticipated obligations of the commonwealth, to
4 provide for an alteration of purpose for current appropriations and to meet certain requirements
5 of law, the sums set forth in this section are hereby appropriated from the General Fund unless
6 specifically designated otherwise in this section, for the several purposes and subject to the
7 conditions specified in this section and subject to the laws regulating the disbursement of public
8 funds for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019. These sums shall be made available until June
9 30, 2020.

10 EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

11 Reserves

12 1599-1850 For a reserve to meet the expenses related to the dissolution of the
13 Hampshire council of governments; provided, that funds may be transferred to the Hampshire
14 county group insurance trust to ensure continued health care coverage and related benefits for
15 retired employees of Hampshire county and the surviving spouses of retired employees of
16 Hampshire county whose employer contributions were paid or payable by the Hampshire council
17 of governments; and provided further, that funds may be transferred to the State Retiree Benefits
18 Trust Fund for the provision of health care coverage for retirees whose employer contribution
19 was paid or payable by the Hampshire council of governments \$250,000

20 SECTION 3. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, retired
21 employees of Hampshire county and the surviving spouses of retired employees of Hampshire
22 county who are eligible for group insurance coverage under chapter 32B of the General Laws or
23 who are insured under said chapter 32B shall have such eligibility and coverage transferred to
24 the jurisdiction of the group insurance commission and such persons shall cease to be eligible or
25 insured under said chapter 32B. The group insurance commission shall provide uninterrupted
26 coverage for benefits available to state retirees to the extent authorized under chapter 32A of the
27 General Laws. All questions relating to group insurance rights, obligations, costs and payments
28 shall be determined by the group insurance commission and shall include the manner and method
29 for the payment of all required premiums applicable to all such coverage.