SUMMARY OF HOUSE WAYS & MEANS FY2020 SUPPLEMENTAL
BUDGET FOR COVID-19 RESPONSE

Title: An Act Making Appropriations for the Fiscal Year 2020 to Authorize Certain COVID-19 Spending in Anticipation of Federal Reimbursement

Number: H.4802

History: 05/12/2020: Original version of bill filed by Gov. Baker (H.4707)
05/13/2020: Referred to HWM
06/22/2020: HWM refers bill out in part as H.4802
06/25/2020: House passes the bill

H.4802 is a $1.1 billion COVID-19 response supplemental budget for FY2020 passed by the House on Wednesday, June 25. The Senate is expected to pass the bill swiftly.

H.4802 adds $100 million more and specific spending requirements to the bill that Governor Baker filed (H.4707) to allow Massachusetts to seek reimbursement for pandemic spending from the federal government.

H.4802 creates two reserve funds at the Executive Office of Administration and Finance (A&F) to authorize certain COVID-19 related spending in anticipation of federal reimbursement. The reserve funds are:

- 1599-1231 – $1 billion reserve fund available until June 30, 2020; and

The language for the reserve funds directs appropriations to specific programs, including critical affordable housing and homelessness prevention resources, as well as many important social safety net programs.

H.4802 authorizes many budget programs to continue unexpended FY2020 funds into FY2021, including rental assistance programs.

Directed Funds for Affordable & Public Housing, Emergency Shelter, & Homelessness Prevention

H.4802 contains funding for several programs related to affordable and public housing, emergency shelter, and homelessness prevention.

The 1599-1231 reserve fund directs no less than the following amounts:

- $13.5 million for local housing authorities (7004-9005)
- $2.5 million for family and individual shelters (7004-0101 & 7004-0102)
- $85 million for field hospitals and shelters
The 1599-1232 reserve fund directs no less than the following amounts:

- $8 million for **family and individual shelters** (7004-0101 & 7004-0102)
- $20 million for **Residential Assistance for Families in Transition** (RAFT) (7004-9316) for COVID-19 RAFT Response (CRR). The CRR program:
  - Allows households to receive up to $10,000 in assistance
  - Directs 33% of CRR funds to extremely low-income households
  - Directs 50% of funds to be prioritized to those families most likely to require family shelter services (7004-0101)
- $1.5 million for **Housing Consumer Education Centers** (7004-3036)
- $5.8 million for **Permanent Supportive Housing** (7004-0104)
- $1 million for **Unaccompanied Homeless Youth** (4000-0007)
- $150,000 for the **Massachusetts Fair Housing Center**

**Carry Over Funds for Rental Assistance and Emergency Shelter**

H.4802 allows unexpended funds from FY2020 to carry over into FY2021 for:

- The **Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program** (MRVP) (7004-9024)
- The **Alternative Housing Voucher Program** (AHVP) (7004-9030)
- **Emergency Assistance** – Family Shelters (7004-0101)

**Non-Housing Related Directed Funding from the Reserves**

The 1599-1231 reserve fund also directs no less than the following amounts:

- $350 million for personal protective equipment
- $139 million for rate add-ons to providers of congregate care and other essential human services
- $93 million for incentive pay for state employees at 24-hour facilities, including residential facilities in the human services sector
- $44 million for the Community Tracing Collaborative
- $36 million for emergency child care for essential workers
- $45.6 million for early education
- $30 million for the Health Safety Net Trust Fund
- $15 million for essential behavioral health services
- $15 million for services and workforce supports under Executive Office of Elder Affairs
- $20 million for statewide efforts to address racial disparities in health care during COVID-19
- $111.4 million for supplemental payments to hospitals and other health care providers
The 1599-1232 reserve fund also directs no less than the following amounts:

- $12.3 million for early intervention services
- $250,000 for FoodSource Hotline run by Project Bread
- $1 million for SNAP outreach program at the Department of Transitional Assistance
- $5.25 million for school meal sites run by Child Nutrition Outreach Program
- $9 million for supplemental foods for emergency food assistance program through Feeding America
- $5.265 million for expansion of the summer job programs and other youth-at-risk employment program
- $235,000 for Health Care for All helpline
- $400,000 for technical assistance for community health centers
- $10 million for Massachusetts Growth Capital Corporation to support small businesses (less than 50 employees)
- $10 million for community foundations
  - Grants to community foundations can be used to provide direct economic support for costs related to meeting basic human needs, such as housing and utility support and food security for households with no or very limited access to sources of economic relief

**Non-Housing Related Carry Over Authorizations**

H.4802 allows FY2020 funds to continue into FY2021 for the following line-items:

- Academic Detailing Program (1450-1266)
- Community Based Re-Entry Program (0339-1011)
- Census Data Technical Assistance (0339-1011)
- Complete Count Census Program (0511-0271)
- War Memorials (1410-1616)
- Municipal Regionalization and Efficiencies Incentive Reserve (1599-0026)
- Commonwealth Preschool Partnership Initiative and Related Programs (3000-6025)
- Safe & Successful youth Initiative (4000-0005)
- Violent Crime Prevention Project (4590-1504)
- Board of Library Commissioners (7000-9101)
- Demonstration Workforce Development Program (7003-0150)
- Certain Local Economic Development Projects (7008-1116)
- After-School & Out-of-School Grants (7061-9611)
- Department of Higher Education (7066-0000)
- Workforce Development Grants to Community Colleges (7066-0015)
- Institute for Politics & Civic Engagement at Salem State University (7114-0110)
- Executive Office of Public Safety (8000-0600)
- Gang Prevention Grants (Shannon Grants) (8100-0111)
- Department of Fire Services Administration (8324-0000)
The budget passed by the House also contains a number of direct allocations for municipalities and organizations to support COVID-19 response.