



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
House of Representatives
State House, Boston 02133-1054

TODD M. SMOLA
REPRESENTATIVE
1ST HAMPDEN DISTRICT

BRIMFIELD • HOLLAND • PALMER
STURBRIDGE • WALES • WARE • WARREN

STATE HOUSE, ROOM 124
TEL. (617) 722-2100
FAX: (617) 722-2390

www.reptoddsmla.org
Todd.Smola@mahouse.gov
Conor.Welch@mahouse.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 27, 2015

Contact: Conor Welch
617-722-2100

Smola Announces House Passage of Early Retirement Incentive Program

BOSTON – BOSTON – Representative Todd M. Smola (R-Warren), Ranking Member of the Committee on Ways and Means, is pleased to announce that the House of Representatives has unanimously passed legislation that creates an early retirement incentive program (ERIP) for certain employees of Massachusetts.

The program is anticipated to achieve more than \$172 million in net savings. Initially proposed by Governor Baker, the ERIP bill is intended to help close an estimated \$1.5 billion budget shortfall in the coming fiscal year and avoid potential layoffs of state employees. The House of Representatives has taken up the ERIP so that the savings can be calculated in the 2016 budget, which will be released next month.

“State spending has been exceeding revenue growth and the ERIP is one way to close this gap without increasing taxes or fees.” said Representative Smola. “I was happy to see bipartisan support in the House for this effective cost saving program. This initiative will help us address a substantial budget shortfall that will be a daunting task to balance.”

The bill now moves to the Senate for its consideration before final passage.

For additional information please contact Representative Smola at Todd.Smola@mahouse.gov or (617)722-2100.

###