



*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](http://www.reptoddsmla.org)  
[Todd.Smola@mahouse.gov](mailto:Todd.Smola@mahouse.gov)  
[Conor.Welch@mahouse.gov](mailto:Conor.Welch@mahouse.gov)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**March 9, 2017**

**Contact: Conor Welch**  
**617-722-2100**

## **Representative Smola Appointed to Polish Heritage Commission**

**BOSTON – Representative Todd M. Smola (R-Warren, Ranking Member, Committee on Ways & Means)** has been appointed to a special commission to preserve Polish heritage in the Pioneer Valley. The commission was established earlier this year by the Massachusetts Legislature. Representative Smola will be joined on the commission by Rep. Scibak of South Hadley, Rep. Kocot of Northampton, 2 members of the Senate and 5 members to be appointed by the governor.

The commission is charged with finding ways to promote public support and funding of Polish cultural preservation activities in western Massachusetts; complement activities that acknowledge the contributions people of Polish heritage have made and continue to make to the Pioneer Valley and the commonwealth; and evaluate the public and private resources available to preserve and research Polish language, history, culture, genealogy, music and the immigrant experience. The commission will file its report by July 1, 2017.

“My family is very proud of its Polish heritage and I am honored that I was selected to serve on this commission,” said Representative Smola. “The Pioneer Valley is the home to a higher percentage of people of Polish descent than any other area of Massachusetts so the commission will definitely have a great deal to work with.”

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

###