



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1054

JAY D. LIVINGSTONE
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
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Committees:
Housing
Community Development and Small Business
State Administration and Regulatory Oversight
Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture

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Representative Brian S. Dempsey,
Room 243, State House
Boston, MA 02133

Senator Karen Spilka,
Room 212, State House
Boston, MA 02133

Representative Stephen Kulik,
Room 238, State House
Boston, MA 02133

Senator Sal DiDomenico,
Room 208, State House
Boston, MA 02133

Representative Todd M. Smola,
Room 124, State House
Boston, MA 02133

Senator Viriato M. deMacedo,
Room 313A, State House
Boston, MA 02133

Re: Conference Committee for FY17 Budget

Dear Budget Conferees:

After a rigorous and thoughtful debate over the past couple of months, I was pleased with the results of both the Fiscal Year 2017 House Budget as well as the Fiscal Year 2017 Senate Budget. Both versions of the budget answered to very important funding needs for programs across the State, including two important line items that are crucial for my district. As the Conference Committee continues to meet and discuss the FY2017 Budget, I hope you will consider the inclusion of the following line items:

Early Education Quality Improvement

Amendment Number Amendment #1209 to H.4200

House Funding

As proposed in the House Budget, I ask that the Early Education Quality Improvement line item receive a funding level of \$32.53 million, with language earmarking \$4 million for the Quality Rating and Improvement System, including not less than \$2 million for program quality grants. This line item is specifically earmarked to help early education and care programs raise and maintain their level of quality and is critical to helping programs meet state standards for effective early learning environments.

Boston Landmarks Orchestra

Amendment #288 to H.4200

Allocation of \$75,000 in Line Item 7008-0900

As proposed by the House Budget, I ask that the Boston Landmarks Orchestra receive the full amount of \$75,000 to cover security costs for the Hatch Shell performances that the group puts on every year. In the aftermath of the Boston Marathon Bombing Tragedy, the cost of security that is required by the State Police in the interest of safety at the Hatch Shell has risen exponentially from a few thousand dollars a year to \$75,000. This organization provides many services throughout Boston in addition to the free performances it organizes at the Hatch Shell each summer. It also runs education and outreach programs in East Boston, Roxbury, Charlestown, Jamaica Plain, and other neighborhoods, which are free for kids, each summer. The students who participate in and benefit from the programs as well as the audience members at the Hatch Shell are not just residents of Boston, but residents from the entire Commonwealth. In addition, visitors at the Hatch Shell concerts include tourists from all over the United States and the world.

DCR Cambridgeport Magazine Beach Renovation

Appropriation of \$75,000 in Line Item 2810-0100, ENV927

As proposed by the Senate version of the Budget, I ask that the full amount of \$75,000 in the DCR operating line item be appropriated for renovations to be made to the Powder House on Magazine Beach in Cambridgeport. This is specifically intended to cover the one-time cost of outdoor furniture and other exterior restorations for the 1818 Powder House, which is the oldest building in the Charles River Basin. This amount will allow the completion of the restoration of the structure, which will allow for its use again by the public.

I thank the Conference Committee on all of their hard work as the budget process progresses, and I hope that you will consider the addition of these line items.

Best Wishes,



Jay Livingstone
State Representative
8th Suffolk District