**MOSES Board of Directors, March Meeting: Legislative Update**

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

*Provided by Steven Smalley, Legislative Director*

**Tax Revenue Update**

Massachusetts collected $1.801 billion for the month of February, which is $74 million less than actual collections in February of 2021 and $293 million more than benchmark. The decrease in comparison from February 2022 to February 2021 is primarily due to the receipt of withholding payments. Certain payments that were received in February 2021 were captured in January of this year. After adjusting for PTE excise payments, DOR had February 2022 collections at $94 million or 5.0% below actual collections in February 2021 but $291 million or 19.5% more than the benchmark. Income tax refunds were the main contributor to the above benchmark performance this month.

FY2022 year to date collections are approximately $23.673 billion, which is $4.145 billion or 21.2 % more than the same period in FY2021 and $1.742 billion more than benchmark. After adjusting for PTE excise payments, year to date collections for FY2022 are $2.887million or 14.8% more than collections in the same period of FY2021 and $1.083 billion more than benchmark.

February is historically the lowest month for revenue, contributing less than 6 percent of the state’s annual revenue. FY2022’s tax revenue projection was updated in December to $35.90 billion.

**Collective Bargaining Supplemental Budget**

On February 22nd, Governor Baker filed a $2.4 billion supplemental budget for FY2022. **H4479** includes the MOSES collective bargaining agreements for the Commonwealth and MassDOT. The bill currently resides in House Ways and Means and it is anticipated to be released in the next week for a floor vote in the House. We will update the MOSES membership as this moves along and for opportunities to reach out to Legislature.

**FY 2023 Budget**

MOSES has begun meeting with House Ways and Means members as part of the Green Budget Coalition to advocate for increases at our environmental agencies. This process will continue until the FY2023 House budget is released sometime in early April.