

## MOSES Board of Directors, June Meeting: Legislative Update

Tuesday, June 14, 2022

*Provided by Steven Smalley, Legislative Director*

### Tax Revenue Update

Massachusetts collected \$2.478 billion for the month of May which is \$1.524 billion less than actual collections in May of 2021 but \$138 million more than benchmark. After adjusting for PTE excise payments, DOR had May 2022 collections at \$1.483 billion or 37.1% below actual collections in May 2021, but \$186 million or 8.0% more than the benchmark.

FY2022 year to date collections are approximately \$36.969 billion, which is \$6.519 billion or 21.4 % more than the same period in FY2021 and \$2.666 billion more than benchmark.

The decrease in May 2022 revenue compared to the same period last year was largely due to the extension of last year's income tax return payments. May is a mid-sized month in terms of revenue collection ranking 7<sup>th</sup> of 12 months. FY2022's tax revenue projection was updated in December to \$35.90 billion.

### FY 23 Budget Update

On Thursday, May 27th, the Senate passed its FY23 budget (SB2915) totaling \$49.78 billion in spending—adding approximately \$93 million from the Senate Ways and Means budget proposal. The budget included some very good news for MOSES:

- **DCR State Parks & Recreation (2810-0100): \$85.02 million** (+\$11.5 million over the Governor's request)
- **DEP Administration (2200-0100): \$45.0 million** (+\$8.77 million over the Governor's request)
- **Division of Ecological Restoration (2300-0101): \$4.25 million** (+\$1.08 million over the Governor's request)

No changes in the FY23 budget were included for a cap on sick time or the addition to solar canopies on DCR properties. An amendment in the Senate budget was included to increase the DCR FTE cap by 70 positions. The FY23 budget now moves onto Conference Committee where the differences between the House and Senate versions will be finalized.

## **MOSES Legislation**

Several of our bills dealing with Group 2 were given a favorable release from the Joint Committee on Public Service:

**H2571/S1668**- An Act relative to non-clerical workers of the MWRA

**H2701**- An Act designating Aerial Foresters of the DCR to be in Group 2 of the contributory retirement system

**H2797**- An Act relative to employees of the Commonwealth who are required to respond to crime scenes.

These bills now move on to House Ways and Means and MOSES will be working to get these released for a floor vote in the House before this legislative session ends in July.