

HOUSE No. 2043

By Mr. Chmura of Holyoke, petition of Stephen T. Chmura for the transfer of money from the General Fund to the Highway Fund in partial repayment of moneys previously transferred from the Highway Fund and for the use of such moneys for completion of the highway construction program. Highways and Motor Vehicles.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Fifty-Seven.

AN ACT TRANSFERRING FIVE MILLION TWO HUNDRED AND SIXTY-TWO THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED DOLLARS FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE HIGHWAY FUND IN PARTIAL REPAYMENT OF MONEYS PREVIOUSLY TRANSFERRED FROM THE HIGHWAY FUND TO THE GENERAL FUND.

1 *Whereas*, From nineteen hundred and thirty-three to nine-
2 teen hundred and forty-eight, inclusive, over fifty-two million
3 six hundred and twenty-three thousand dollars derived from
4 motor fuel taxes and motor vehicle fees was appropriated by
5 the general court to objects other than the construction and
6 maintenance of highways; and

7 *Whereas*, It was the generally understood purpose of the
8 taxing provisions which were the source of these revenues
9 that the proceeds of such taxes would be used only for highway
10 purposes; and

11 *Whereas*, The commonwealth as a result of such diversion
12 of these revenues from the intended objects is under a moral
13 obligation to the highway users of the state to repay such
14 amounts to the Highway Fund; and

15 *Whereas*, The commonwealth is engaged in a long-term
16 highway construction and improvement program which is
17 being financed exclusively from taxes imposed on highway

18 users and in large part by bonds payable from motor fuel tax
19 revenues; and

20 *Whereas*, The repayment from the General Fund of these
21 aforementioned diverted highway user revenues over a ten-
22 year period would immeasurably assist the completion of the
23 present highway program; and

24 *Whereas*, The benefits resulting from such highway program
25 are not limited to those persons actually traveling on the
26 highways but will acerue to the commonwealth as a whole
27 and will be especially valuable from a defense standpoint;
28 therefore

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in
General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same,
as follows:*

1 The state treasurer is hereby authorized and directed to
2 transfer five million two hundred and sixty-two thousand
3 three hundred dollars from the General Fund to the Highway
4 Fund, such sum being the first of a series of ten annual trans-
5 fers in the same amount for the purposes set forth in the
6 preamble to this act.