

By Mr. Jajuga, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1645) of James P. Jajuga, John D. O'Brien, Brian S. Dempsey and Kevin L. Finnegan for legislation to allow cities and towns to receive credits for designs necessary for transportation projects. Transportation.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT RELATIVE TO TRANSPORTATION AID.

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

1 Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, any
2 city or town may request and shall receive a credit from future
3 chapter 90, so-called, aid allocation up to one-half of its current
4 annual chapter 90 aid for the purposes of carrying out the environ-
5 mental and engineering design of a needed transportation project.
6 Said community may select from which year the credit will be
7 debited but not more than four years hence. The actual cash funds
8 shall be obtained from the pool of chapter 90 funds not yet drawn
9 down, but shall not in any fiscal year exceed twenty million dol-
10 lars total statewide or one-half the chapter 90 amount statewide
11 carried from the previous fiscal year to the current fiscal year,
12 whichever is less. At such time as the project is designed and
13 locally approved and available to go to construction bid, the com-
14 monwealth will utilize its transportation capital improvements
15 funds to fully replenish the cash used from the chapter 90 pool
16 and simultaneously remove the debit from the chapter 90 account
17 of said city or town for the applicable year and amount. If the pro-
18 ject is not available for construction bid by the beginning of the
19 fiscal year the credit was obtained from, then said amount shall be
20 automatically transferred from the community's actual aid and
21 placed in the chapter 90 pool of funds to replenish the cash used
22 for project design. If at any time the cash in the chapter 90
23 statewide fund is temporarily depleted, the commonwealth will

24 utilize its transportation capital improvement fund to meet current
25 chapter 90 payment requests. A list of all proposed and/or
26 approved design projects and their status shall be available to the
27 public at the public information office of the Massachusetts
28 Highway Department.