

HOUSE No. 7035

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE HOUSE • BOSTON 02133

EDWARD J. KING
GOVERNOR

June 24, 1981

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives:

I am filing herewith a recommendation for a deficiency appropriation for the Governor's Highway Safety Bureau for the 1981 fiscal year, to be available for use in the 1982 fiscal year.

In my budget message for the 1982 fiscal year, I included a request for matching funds which would have allowed the Bureau to receive approximately \$1.6 million in Federal funds for the highway safety program. However, this item was not included in either the Senate or House version of the budget and, therefore, cannot be considered by the Conference Committee.

I believe that an investment of \$100,000 in order to receive sixteen times as much from the Federal government for such a necessary and successful program would be money well spent.

I am, therefore, taking the only course left open to me to guarantee the continuance of the program and the receipt of the Federal funds by requesting that you include an appropriation of \$100,000 for the matching funds in the deficiency budget now before you, and that you add the necessary language in the item so that the funds will be available during the 1982 fiscal year.

Highway safety is an important aspect in our society. We hear about the tragedies that occur on our roadways daily. The work of the Governor's Highway Safety Bureau has provided a positive influence towards securing travel on our roadways.

The equipment supplied to cities and towns throughout the Commonwealth has increased our municipalities' capabilities in providing better highway safety services.

The presence of 55 teams of state troopers on the highways, financed from these funds, has resulted in a reduced level of speed on our roadways and the funding of selective enforcement teams has significantly enhanced our efforts in apprehending drinking drivers.

The two major causes of automobile accidents are excess speed and drinking. The Governor's Highway Safety Bureau has moved affirmatively in both of these areas. In fact, as of June 22, of this year, the state was 5.4% below the number of fatalities experienced during the same period last year and below the national average.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th inst. in relation to the above mentioned matter. The same has been referred to the proper authorities for their consideration.

Very truly yours,
 [Signature]
 [Name]
 [Title]

In accordance with the provisions of the Act of March 3, 1878, as amended, the following information is being furnished to you:

The total amount of the above mentioned matter is \$100.00. The same is being paid to you in full.

If you have any further questions regarding this matter, please contact the office of the [Name] at [Address].