



DRAFT FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES

**Third FY21 Interim Budget Summary: Signed into Law**

[H.5065](#) An Act making certain appropriations for fiscal year 2021 before final action on the General Appropriation Bill

H.5065 is the third interim budget for FY21 to come before the Legislature. The previous two interim budgets maintain service through October 31, 2020 or the effective date of the FY21 General Appropriation Act (GAA). H.5065 authorizes the appropriation of \$5.4 billion starting at the end of October should there not yet be a General Appropriations Act enacted. Unlike the 2nd interim budget, this proposal does not include a date by which the act expires.

**H.5065 History**

- October 22, 2020 Filed by Governor
- October 26, 2020 Engrossed and then Enacted in both branches and signed into law as [Chapter 198 of the Acts of 2020](#)

**H.5065 Bill Summary**

SECTION 1	Provides spending authorization of \$5.4 billion appropriated to maintain services for the fiscal year that ends June 30, 2021 pending passage of the General Appropriation Act.
SECTION 2	Takes effect on October 31, 2020

The first interim budget was signed into law in June ([Chapter 101 of the Acts of 2020](#)). It authorized \$5.25 billion and:

- Allows the State Treasurer to advance local aid payments to municipalities, regional school district or independent agricultural and technical schools and
- Extends capital accounts that would otherwise revert on June 30, 2020.

The second interim budget was signed into law in August ([Chapter 131 of the Acts of 2020](#)). It authorized \$16.53 billion effective through October 31, 2020 or the effective date of the FY21 GAA and:

- Requires funding items at the less of the previous year's general appropriations and the Governor's operating budget and, if cost savings occur, requires reporting of that savings to House and Senate Ways and Means and prohibits cost savings through lower eligibility standards or benefit levels
- Requires A&F to report monthly to the legislature on the funding of items under the act.
- Authorizes payments from the Health Safety Net Trust Fund and authorizes spending to hospitals and community health centers with a requirement that the funding be returned by the end of the fiscal year.
- Authorizes EOHHS to expand dental services coverage for MassHealth enrollees provided EOHHS file a report detailing proposed changes and anticipated fiscal impact not less than 45 days before restructuring benefits.
- Grants the secretary discretion in their choice of basis year for determining nursing facility rates, as long as the rates in aggregate are at least those with a basis year of 2017.