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CMRPC Legislative Affairs Committee Minutes

April 14, 2025 – 11:00 am
Virtual Zoom Meeting

Attendees: Andrew Goals (Chair) – Charlton, William Trifone – Dudley, David Quiroa – Worcester, Jared Grigg – Spencer

Absent: Mary Bulso – Blackstone, Jen Callahan – Oxford

CMRPC Staff: Ethan Melad, Connor Robichaud, Anthony Senesi, Trish Settles

Meeting opened at 11:00am.

The discussion began with a notification that CMRPC’s Executive Committee had voted to support An Act Creating a Municipal and Public Building Authority, filed by Rep. Blais and Sen. Comerford. Anthony will be sending a letter to all CMRPC towns to notify and encourage advocacy.

2025 Priority list: The Committee discussed topic areas for the 2025 priority list, with some based on the Rural Policy Advisory Commission’s list. It was decided that the priority topic areas would be submitted to Executive Committee, and if/when specific legislation was recommended for support or advocacy by the LAC, it would be proposed to Exec.

Connor provided an approach for a tiered level of support, so that priority areas may be “pre-approved” for certain types of support. It was agreed this was a good method to use.

Following discussion, the Committee voted to prioritize legislation falling into the following topic areas:

1. Municipal & General Operating Aid
 - To include H.2571/S.1650, ‘An Act creating a municipal and public safety building authority’
2. Municipal Infrastructure Maintenance & Resiliency
 - Including sewer, stormwater, roads, and culverts
3. Federal and State Funding Opportunities
 - Supporting the continued ability of MA to secure and access Federal funds for planning, technical assistance and project implementation
 - Continued support for DLTA funding



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4. Public School Funding Formula reform

Motion by Jared, second by Bill. Passed unanimously. Jared then **motioned** to amend the list by adding the following:

5. Rural Policy Advisory Commission (RPAC) priorities

- Support of bills identified by RPAC, which include Chapter 90 funding increases, PILOT reform, economic development, agriculture, and open meeting law.

Second by Bill, the **motion passed unanimously.**

Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Grigg and Seconded by Mr. Trifone. The motion passed unanimously.
- The meeting adjourned at 11:35am.

Minutes respectfully submitted by
Ethan Melad, CMRPC