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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
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**Patrick-Murray Administration Files Bond Bill to Improve Public Safety, Enhance Economic Development, Shore up State and Local Facilities**  
*Final bond bill to implement the Administration's 5-year Capital Investment Plan*

BOSTON, MA – Friday, January 04, 2008 – Governor Deval Patrick and Lieutenant Governor Tim Murray today filed a \$2.5 billion bond bill making targeted investments in public safety, cities and town facilities, state buildings, and information technology systems in order to spur economic development and ensure state government operates more transparently, efficiently and effectively for all residents of the Commonwealth.

Included in the five-year bill is significant authorization to assist communities with local infrastructure needs, including a \$100 million to construct 31 new libraries across the state and \$20 million for Municipal Facilities Grants to renovate and improve public safety facilities.

"The citizens of the Commonwealth need and deserve a transparent, well-functioning government that meets the needs of individuals and communities alike," said Governor Patrick. "This legislation will begin to address a backlog of repairs, renovation and construction that will help stimulate economic growth across Massachusetts, strengthen public safety and ensure state government is responsive to those it serves."

The borrowing sought in the bond bill is based on the Administration's five-year, \$12 billion capital investment plan and the related debt affordability analysis published in August, which has been positively reviewed by several credit rating agencies.

The total amount of borrowing authorization sought by the Governor through all of the bond bills he has filed in accordance with the capital plan is approximately \$10.5 billion. The plan also provides authorization for the entire cost of certain projects that are planned to begin within the next five years but that won't be completed until after the five-year period.

"The Patrick-Murray administration is the first administration to lay out a thoughtful, transparent capital investment plan that makes targeted improvements in the Commonwealth's infrastructure," said Jay Gonzalez, undersecretary for Administration and

Finance. "This and previous bond bills we have filed will implement the vision we laid out last summer in a fiscally responsible manner. The investments we have made are consistent with our debt affordability analysis, ensuring we can afford to make this level of investment, and at the end of five years, we will have made significant and lasting improvements throughout Massachusetts."

The legislation authorizes targeted investments to spur economic development in our communities, including funding to help small businesses throughout the Commonwealth. The bill calls for \$10 million to recapitalize the Community Development Finance Corporation, which makes loans to small businesses in economically depressed urban centers that often cannot otherwise access capital. Also included is a \$75 million authorization to expand the MORE jobs grant program, which provides grant funding to municipalities for public infrastructure improvements to support new private developments that result in new permanent jobs.

To address public safety concerns, the Administration included significant authorization for facilities and equipment across the Commonwealth. Among the investments is \$15 million for improvements at correctional facilities aimed at preventing prisoner suicides, including capital improvements recommended in the recent Hayes report. Also included is a 10-year, \$450 million authorization for improvements to state and county correctional facilities. These investments will be guided by a comprehensive 10-year master plan currently being developed for correctional facilities. The plan is scheduled for completion by December 2008.

The bill also includes \$500 million for capital improvements to court facilities throughout Massachusetts, including a new courthouse in Lowell, renovations in Greenfield, Taunton and Salem, and completion of the master plan for Norfolk county court facilities in Dedham. The bill also authorizes the sale of certain court facilities that are in disrepair. The proceeds from those sales will be used to help pay for the replacement court facility. Also included is \$400 million for capital repairs, on-going maintenance and unforeseen emergency capital needs at state office buildings and facilities.

The legislation also authorizes \$15 million to fund the construction of new regional Chief Medical Examiner (CME) facilities in Worcester and Holyoke to relieve the burden on the Boston office of the CME; \$10 million for renovation and expansion of the fire training facility in Springfield to provide fire training services to all of the communities in Western Massachusetts; and \$105 million for the purchase of critical public safety equipment needs.

To enhance government services provided to all citizens of the Commonwealth, the legislation includes \$450 million to modernize critical state information technology systems, including funding to replace and upgrade the outdated and overburdened systems at the Department of Revenue and the Registry of Motor Vehicles. Also included is \$78 million for a contingency data center in Western Massachusetts, a critical investment for the security and continued functioning of state government in the event of a catastrophic event at the state's data center in Chelsea, which is located just one-half mile from the recent gas tanker explosion in Everett.

In addition to the strategic investments in the bill, the Administration is also seeking a five-year \$250 million authorization for the acquisition of equipment that is currently funded through the operating budget. Moving these capital investments off the operation budget

and onto the capital budget will create capacity to move personnel expenses off the capital budget and onto the operation budget where they belong. This shift will allow the state to stop paying for hundreds of state employees with a virtual credit card and begin reversing a fiscally imprudent practice that has been expanded by prior administrations. Paying salaries through the capital budget costs approximately 60 cents more per dollar than paying them from the operating budget.

Also included in the bond bill is a provision that allows the Commonwealth to refinance certain debt issued by non-state entities that the state is responsible for paying, generating debt service savings for the Commonwealth. This provision was originally included in an immediate-needs bond bill filed early last year by the Administration, saving the Commonwealth \$27.5 million.

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January 10, 2008

Chief Eric Madison, President  
Western Massachusetts Fire Chiefs Association  
Longmeadow Fire Department  
44 Williams Street  
Longmeadow, MA 01106

Mr. President:

I want to thank you and your association for the opportunity to address your membership.

I am a candidate for the position of Second Vice President for the Fire Chiefs Association because I am ready to be more involved with our association. I understand the issues we are facing and look forward to the challenge to accomplish the goals we have set.

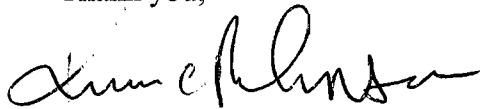
My background with the Marshfield Fire Department, the Fire Chiefs Association of Plymouth County, Fire Chiefs Association of Massachusetts and the Muscular Dystrophy Association has helped prepare me for the responsibilities this office will hold.

During the tenure of Chief Kenneth Galligan as President of the Fire Chiefs of Massachusetts I was nominated for a position on the Board of Fire Prevention Regulations. I received the appointment in 2005 after a lengthy political process and continue to serve as one of the three fire chiefs on the board.

I have received the unanimous endorsement of the Fire Chiefs Association of Plymouth County at their monthly meeting on September 5, 2007.

In closing I am asking for your vote and support for the position of Second Vice President of the Fire Chiefs Association of Massachusetts.

Thank you,



Chief Kevin C. Robinson  
Marshfield Fire Department