

Boston University Legislative Policy & Drafting Clinic
Legislative History Project Memo Summary

To: Professor Sean Kealy

From: Kyle Hafkey

Re: Legislative History Project; Chapter 72 of the Acts of 2020; An Act Relative to the Strengthening the Local and Regional Public Health

Date: December 30, 2020

In my search for legislative history pertaining to Chapter 72 of the Acts of 2020, regarding An Act Relative to the Strengthening the Local and Regional Public Health, I looked through numerous sources, such as State House News Service, LexisNexis Advance, Westlaw, Massachusetts Legislatures webpage, the Mass.gov website, as well as numerous media sources related to the passage of House Bill 4503 and its predecessors. All information I have found, along with respective PDF files, are located in the zip file “Chapter 72 Legislative History Project.” Further, I have divided the materials into folder, and subfolders to best organize the information as follows: (1) Bill Versions and Journal Entries, (2) Bill Tracking, (3) Committee Report, (4) Press Reports, and (5) the appropriations bill funding this legislation.

Regarding bill versions, I attached a copy of each bill, along with amendments to these bills, and further the final version of Chapter 72 of the Acts of 2020. Further, under each bill version, I included journals from both the House and Senate that pertain to each version. These journals are labeled by the respective legislative branch, followed by the date of the journal entry. For bill tracking, I did a search of LexisNexis and downloaded the pdf versions of the bill. Also, for your convenience, I also included the bill tracking from the Massachusetts Legislatures webpage if that version is preferred, as my name will appear on the Lexis PDF.

Further, I included a committee report that sets the premise of the enacted legislation. I placed this file in a separate folder labeled “Committee Report.” Next, I found one press release that is from the Executive Office of Health and Human Services and the Department of Public Health. I also found several other press related publications concerning this recently enacted legislation. Finally, I attached the appropriations bill which outlines funding for legislation, included H4503. Unfortunately, I was unable to find any executive action documents.