

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
House of Representatives
State House, Room 167, Boston 02133-1054

KARYN E. POLITO
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
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WESTBOROUGH • SHREWSBURY

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April 7, 2009

The Honorable Karen Spilka
Chairwoman Joint Committee on Economic
Development & Emerging Technologies
State House, Room 42
Boston, MA 02133

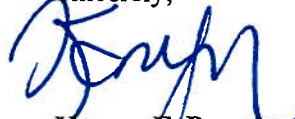
Dear Chairwoman Spilka,

I am writing to ask for the favorable release of Senate Bill 2019, *An Act Mobilizing Economic Recovery in Massachusetts*, sponsored by Governor Deval Patrick. I am in support of this legislation and believe it would greatly benefit the cities and towns of this Commonwealth by allowing them to benefit from the maximum benefits of the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act of 2009 (ARRA) as well as provide for greater ease in complying with its deadlines.

Sections twenty five and twenty six of this bill would allow for the Massachusetts Water Abatement Trust to establish terms and conditions of loan terms and other financial assistance to the cities and towns of this Commonwealth. By allowing the Massachusetts Water Pollution Abatement Trust Board to set loan terms and conditions to comply with the ARRA they will be able to charge less than the current statutory 2% interest rate for loans for other financial assistance from the State Revolving Fund (SRF). This in turn would make the state eligible for the \$186 million in clean water and drinking water grants funded by the ARRA. I advocate strongly for these changes that can provide meaningful assistance to cash-strapped municipalities and ratepayers such as the Towns of Shrewsbury and Westborough who are awaiting this funding to assist in projects for their own Wastewater Treatment Plant.

I respectfully request that you consider releasing Senate Bill 2019 with a favorable recommendation from the Joint Committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies. The Towns of Shrewsbury and Westborough and their residents would benefit from the authority the Massachusetts Water Pollution Abatement Trust Board will be able to have. Thank you for your time and deliberation over this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact my office with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



KARYN E. POLITO
State Representative
11th Worcester

