

September 27, 2023

*Via Electronic Mail*

The Hon. Nick Collins, Chair  
Joint Committee on State Administration  
and Regulatory Oversight  
State House, Room 312-D  
Boston, MA 02133  
Nick.Collins@masenate.gov

The Hon. Antonio F.D. Cabral, Chair  
Joint Committee on State Administration  
and Regulatory Oversight  
State House, Room 466  
Boston, MA 02133  
Antonio.Cabral@mahouse.gov

**Re: House 3039, An Act Relative to Snow Hauling and Removal**

Dear Chair Collins and Chair Cabral:

As your committee considers House 3039, *An Act Relative to Snow Hauling and Removal*, I want to voice my support for this legislation. This bill would amend Section 1 of Chapter 30B of the Massachusetts General Laws (Chapter 30B), the Uniform Procurement Act, to add snow hauling and removal to Chapter 30B's current exemption for snow plowing.

The Office of the Inspector General (OIG) advocates for transparency and fairness in public procurement. We recognize that procuring certain services under Chapter 30B can, at times, present challenges for governmental entities. Snow plowing, hauling and removal services is one such difficult procurement area identified through my discussions with municipal officials. Although snow plowing is already exempt from the requirements of Chapter 30B, private contractors often find it more attractive to enter into a contract for snow plowing if it includes snow hauling and removal. Without the ability to contract for these services together, municipalities may lose contractors to private customers.

Including snow hauling and removal under the current snow plowing exemption makes sense from a procurement standpoint since the services naturally fit together. In carrying out our mission, the OIG looks to balance transparency and fairness in procurement with an understanding of the challenges municipalities face in obtaining certain services. This legislation provides such a balance. Additionally, this exemption, like all Chapter 30B exemptions, only applies to the procurement of the subject services. Municipalities must still follow all other laws, such as those relating to prevailing wages and licensure.

Chair Collins and Chair Cabral  
September 27, 2023  
Page 2 of 2

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at 617-722-8806 or [Jeffrey.S.Shapiro@mass.gov](mailto:Jeffrey.S.Shapiro@mass.gov) or Joshua Giles, the OIG's Director of Policy and Government, at 617-722-8828 or [Joshua.Giles@mass.gov](mailto:Joshua.Giles@mass.gov). Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey S. Shapiro  
Inspector General

cc (via electronic mail):

The Hon. Denise C. Garlick  
Joshua Giles, Director, Policy and Government Division, OIG  
Susanne M. O'Neil, General Counsel, OIG  
Neil Cohen, Director, Regulatory and Compliance Division, OIG  
Nataliya Urciuoli, Executive Assistant to the IG, OIG