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September 18, 2023

Via Electronic Mail

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

The Honorable 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 7, An Act Relative to Technical Corrections in Chapter 30B

Dear Chair Collins and Chair Cabral:

I write in support of House 7, *An Act Relative to Technical Corrections in Chapter 30B*. The bill updates Chapter 30B of the Massachusetts General Laws (Chapter 30B), the Uniform Procurement Act, to correct statutory references rendered inaccurate by amendments to other statutes. The language of this bill is identical to House 3037 sponsored by Representative Denise Garlick.

As local governmental bodies use Chapter 30B to purchase or dispose of supplies, services and real property worth billions of dollars each year, it is important that the statute is free from inaccurate or out of date references, so that it is as easy to follow and administer by the countless public procurement officials who are required to follow this law.

The Office of the Inspector General has filled this skinny bill as one that is solely and exclusively involving the correction of technical changes required to meet the correct references or purposes of the statute, there are no discretionary changes included. It is our hope that refining this bill for the current term, the Committee will feel more comfortable advancing this bill to the full legislature, where we hope it can further advance on its journey to correct the technical errors in the current law.

Sections 1, 5 and 6 of the bill make changes to reflect the enactment of Chapter 7C of the Massachusetts General Laws in 2012. Chapter 7C relates to capital asset management and maintenance, a topic previously covered by Chapter 7. Section 2 of the bill updates Chapter 30B

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to recognize the reorganization of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation under transportation reform in 2009. Section 3 of the bill corrects an inaccurate citation to a subclause in another statute. Section 4 updates Chapter 30B to correctly reference the Open Meeting Law codified at Chapter 30A of the Massachusetts General Laws.

Currently, due to a previous drafting error, sections 22 and 23 of Chapter 30B are identical. Section 7 of this bill strikes section 23 as duplicative.

For your reference, I have enclosed a redlined version of the changes the bill makes.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at 617-722-8806 or Jeffrey.S.Shapiro@mass.gov or Joshua Giles, Director of Policy and Government, at 617-722-8828 or Joshua.Giles@mass.gov. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey S. Shapiro
Inspector General

cc (by email, with enclosure):

The Honorable Denise Garlick
Joshua Giles, Director of Policy and Government, Office of the Inspector General
Nataliya Urciuoli, Executive Assistant to the Inspector General