ATTACHMENT T

July 8, 2016

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives:

 Pursuant to Article LVI, as amended by Article XC, Section 3 of the Amendments to the Constitution, I am returning to you for amendment Section 191 of House Bill No. 4450, “An Act Making Appropriations for the Fiscal Year 2017 for the Maintenance of the Departments, Boards, Commissions, Institutions and Certain Activities of the Commonwealth, for Interest, Sinking Fund and Serial Bond Requirements and for Certain Permanent Improvements.”

I share the Legislature’s evident concern about managerial employees cashing out vacation and earned sick leave credits. That concern is the reason why I filed House bill 4341, “An Act to Reform Sick Time.” The task force proposed in Section 191, however, is not needed. The time for acting on this issue is now.

For these reasons, I recommend that Section 191 be amended by striking out the text and inserting in place thereof the following four sections:-

SECTION 191. Section 31A of chapter 29 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2014 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding the following subsection:- (e) No employee of the commonwealth shall accrue more than 1,000 hours of unused sick leave credits.

SECTION 191A. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, as of the effective date of this act, any employee of the commonwealth who has accrued more than 1,000 hours of unused sick leave credits shall not accrue any more such credits.

SECTION 191B. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, section 191A shall take effect for any employee of the commonwealth who has accrued not more than 1,000 hours of unused sick leave credits, on the effective date of this act.

SECTION 191C. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the personnel administrator shall promulgate revised rules under the second paragraph of section 28 of chapter 7 of the General Laws to incorporate the changes enacted in section 191A, which revisions shall take effect as soon as practicable after the effective date of this act.

Respectfully submitted,