



**ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT
SCHOOLS IN NEW ENGLAND**

Summary – Spring 2017

The House and Senate named FY18 budget conferees today and they will work to reconcile the two spending plans as well as make adjustments on spending levels as revenues continue to fall short of benchmark projections. The Senate appointed Sens. Spilka, DiDomenico and deMacedo to a budget conference committee and the House appointed Reps. Dempsey, Kulik and Smola. Their task will be challenging from a fiscal perspective and with several policy matters that were included by the Senate.

The Committees are also cranking up their activity and June is shaping up to be a very busy month for public hearings. Of particular interest is the Joint Committee on Revenue's public hearing on Tuesday, June 13th. Spread among the dozens of bills relative to land, property tax and senior issues are a few relative to Payments In Lieu of Taxes. H.1565, H.2594, H.2956 and H.3313. AISNE will be reviewing whether to submit written comments.

The Senate is wrapping up their FY'18 budget debate and expect to with roughly 30 amendments left to rule upon. As of late this afternoon, Senators added \$35.9 million in spending to their fiscal 2018 budget with the approval of various amendments. All of the amendments we identified for you have been acted upon, most rejected with some withdrawn, just the camp counselor amendment being adopted.

This amendment includes "work by seasonal camp counselors and counselor trainees." In the definition of the term "occupation" under Chapter 151 of the MGL, relative to Minimum Fair Wages. A copy of the amendment is attached for your information. The next step is conference committee; three members of the House and three members of the Senate will be appointed to reconcile the differences between the House and Senate FY18 budget plans. This language is in the Senate version but not the House version so it is a matter for the conference committee to decide whether or not it remains in the final document.

Summary provided by BCB Government Relations, Inc.