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MEMORANDUM

To: Agency Heads, Chief Fiscal Officers, and General Counsels
From: William McNamara, Comptroller of the Commonwealth
Date: June 29, 2022
Subject: Fiscal Year 2023 Interim Budget Guidance

Comptroller Memo FY#2023-02

Executive Summary

Chapter 98 of the Acts of 2022, the FY 2023 Interim Budget, has been signed by Governor Baker. This memo offers guidance to agency leadership about operating under an interim budget.

Fiscal Year 2023 will begin without a General Appropriation Act (GAA) in place. As such, Governor Baker signed a Fiscal Year 2023 Interim Budget, on June 27, 2022 for \$6,010,000,000.

The Commonwealth will operate under this interim budget authorization beginning on Friday, July 1, 2022. This projected one-month interim budget is expected to cover department incurrence needs through July 31, 2022, or until the enactment of the Fiscal Year 2023 General Appropriation Act, whichever occurs first.

When administering budgets during this time, it is important to follow this guidance, the [Expenditure Classification Handbook](#) and [A & F Administrative Bulletin #9](#).

Constraint by the GAA

Departments must assume, absent explicit instruction to the contrary from the Comptroller, that all activity conducted under an interim budget will be subject retroactively to the conditions and restrictions included in the GAA when eventually signed into law. Departments must not undertake any activities which they have reason to believe will not be supported by the relevant appropriations and other provisions of the GAA. In the absence of a report of a Conference Committee on the budget, and where the relevant appropriations and other provisions enacted by

the Senate and the House of Representatives differ materially, departments must act under their best judgment regarding the likely resolution by a Conference Committee, but should favor the most conservative reasonable prediction of the outcome. Departments should consult with A&F prior to making significant commitments which would exceed the lowest of the relevant House 2, House and Senate spending authorizations.

Departments must also recognize that fiscal constraints and policy differences may result in the Governor vetoing or reducing appropriations or other provisions of the GAA as enacted by the General Court when he signs it into law, and must manage obligations accordingly.

It is imperative that all accounts are reviewed for compliance within these limitations.

Departments should proceed with routine business, including processing invoices within nine days to take advantage of any prompt payment discounts that are available.

Departments should direct Fiscal Year 2023 payment override requests, in writing, to Assistant Comptroller Tryntje Bumgardner tryntje.bumgardner@mass.gov and Jessica Cogswell, Statewide Payments & Tax Reporting Manager, jessica.cogswell@mass.gov, and include in subject line "FY23 Override Request."

For questions regarding the administration of the interim budget and payment processing, please contact Assistant Comptroller Tryntje Bumgardner, at (617) 973-2489.

For questions regarding broader budgetary and expenditure matters, please contact Bran Shim, Budget Director, Executive Office for Administration & Finance at (857) 400-5481.

cc: MMARS Liaisons
Payroll Directors
Catharine Hornby, Undersecretary, Executive Office for Administration and Finance
Bran Shim, Budget Director, Executive Office for Administration and Finance
Jeffrey Shapiro, First Deputy Comptroller
Kevin McHugh, Assistant Comptroller Payroll & Payments
Tryntje Bumgardner, Assistant Comptroller Payroll & Payments - Designee
Jess Cogswell, Statewide Payments & Tax Reporting Manager
Internal Distribution