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# COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND  
SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION  
- MODIFIED ACCRUAL BASIS

JUNE 30, 2006

O'Connor  
& Drew P.C.  
Certified Public Accountants

# COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## Financial Statement and Supplemental Information - Modified Accrual Basis

June 30, 2006

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## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Honorable Speaker of the House of Representatives  
of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

We have audited the accompanying statement of available resources and expenditures-modified accrual basis of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts House of Representatives, for the year ended June 30, 2006. This financial statement is the responsibility of the House's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on this financial statement based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the statement of available resources and expenditures-modified accrual basis is free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in statement of available resources and expenditures-modified accrual basis. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the statement of available resources and expenditures - modified accrual basis. We believe that our audit of the statement of available resources and expenditures - modified accrual basis provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described in Note 1, this financial statement was prepared on the modified accrual basis of accounting, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles.

In our opinion, the statement of available resources and expenditures-modified accrual basis referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the results of operation of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts House of Representatives for the year ended June 30, 2006, in conformity with the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated May 7, 2007, on our consideration of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts House of Representative's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be read in conjunction with this report in considering the results of our audit.

*D'Enno & Drew, P.C.*  
**Certified Public Accountants**

May 7, 2007

# COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## Notes to the Financial Statement - Modified Accrual Basis

June 30, 2006

### Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

#### Organization

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has a dual chamber legislature known as the General Court. The upper body of the General Court is the Senate, composed of 40 members and the lower body, the House of Representatives, consists of 160 members. Members are elected to a two-year term and have the responsibility of electing a presiding officer. The Senate is led by the Senate President and the House by the Speaker of the House.

Each chamber has its own procedural rules to govern activity within the chamber, as well as joint rules to govern the progress of bills. Bills enacted by the General Court become Acts or Resolves. Acts are considered to have a general effect and usually amend the state's code of law, the Massachusetts General Laws. Bills that have a limited impact are known as resolves. The laws passed by each legislative session in Massachusetts are published as the Acts and Resolves.

#### Basis of Presentation and Accounting

The accompanying financial statement presents the total resources available and the related expenditures of the operating accounts of the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (the "House"). Available resources consist of the general appropriation and the unexpended balances of available funds brought forward from the prior fiscal year. Each year, the Senate and the House appropriate resources for the various bureaus, commissions, departments, boards and institutions of state government, including the general appropriations for the House. As part of the budgetary process and as provided for in the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the unexpended balances of available resources are evaluated on the basis of planned programs or commitments that have not yet been completed and are either brought forward to be available for such programs and commitments or revert back to the general fund of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. At June 30, 2006, approximately \$9,895,000 of unexpended resources is available for planned programs and commitments in the next fiscal year.

# COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## Notes to the Financial Statement - Modified Accrual Basis - Continued

June 30, 2006

### Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies - Continued

Expenditures represent payments for the purchase of goods and services, including payroll, operating expenses, equipment and certain fixtures of the House. In addition, total expenditures include amounts designated for expenditures relative to the budgetary allotments for fiscal 2006 but which were paid subsequent to June 30, 2006. Generally accepted accounting principles do not allow the reporting of budgetary designations as expenditures, but require the reporting of expenditures as the obligation for goods and services is incurred.

In accordance with Section 8 of Chapter 7A of the Massachusetts General Laws, the financial operations of all funds of the House of Representatives are reported to the Comptroller of the Commonwealth on the Commonwealth's Statewide Accounting System, Massachusetts Management Accounting and Reporting System (MMARS). The Comptroller maintains the accounting records of the House and those of most other state departments and agencies. The accounting system utilized is a statutory or budgetary system that differs from generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). Set forth above is the principal accounting policy of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, which relates to the preparation of the accompanying financial statement, together with a description of how such policy differs from GAAP.

#### Income Tax Status

The House of Representatives is a governmental function of the Commonwealth and is exempt from Federal income tax under Code Section 115 of the Internal Revenue Code.

To the Honorable Speaker of the House of Representatives  
of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Boston, Massachusetts  
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not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of and management of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts House of Representatives and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than those specified parties.

*O'Connor & Drew, P.C.*  
**Certified Public Accountants**

May 7, 2007



## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

To the Honorable Speaker of the House of Representatives  
of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Boston, Massachusetts

Our report on our audit of the statement of available resources and expenditures - modified accrual basis of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts House of Representatives for the year ended June 30, 2006, appears on page one. The audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the statement of available resources and expenditures - modified accrual basis taken as a whole. The supplemental information is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the statement of available resources and expenditures - modified accrual basis. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the statement of available resources and expenditures - modified accrual basis and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the statement of available resources and expenditures - modified accrual basis taken as a whole.

*O'Connor & Drew, P.C.*  
Certified Public Accountants

May 7, 2007



**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**Schedule of Available Resources and Expenditures  
- Modified Accrual Basis**

**For the Year Ended June 30, 2006**

**Appropriation**

9600-0000	Budgetary Account - House Operations:	
	Funds Appropriated Per Budget	\$ 32,678,401
	Balance Forward From FY05	<u>10,351,724</u>
	Total Funds Available	43,030,125
	Total Expenditures	<u>33,134,781</u>
	<b>Adjusted Balance Forward To FY07</b>	<b><u>\$ 9,895,344</u></b>