

Office of Representative James E. Vallee
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VALLEE ANNOUNCES HOUSE VOTE TO RESTORE LOCAL FUNDING

BOSTON – State Representative James E. Vallee (*D – Franklin*) today announced the House of Representatives’ vote to override Governor Deval Patrick’s veto of two items in the state budget providing funding for local projects in Franklin and Medway.

Vallee successfully advocated yesterday for a House override of funding struck by Patrick from line items in the FY08 state budget containing \$250,000 for the establishment of a Franklin Police Technology Fund and \$250,000 for the Medway Public Library.

As Assistant Vice-Chairman of the House Committee on Ways & Means, Vallee passed an amendment during the budget negotiation process this spring to earmark funding for the library in an effort to maintain the valuable resources offered by the Medway Public Library to his constituents. He passed a budget amendment to allocate \$250,000 for a Franklin Police Technology Fund that would facilitate communication upgrades to the department.

“I am absolutely thrilled that Representative Vallee has been able to work so successfully on behalf of the Town of Medway,” said Suzanne Kennedy, Medway Town Administrator. “This is the second consecutive year that he, along with other members of the delegation, has been instrumental in providing much needed additional assistance to the town.”

“While the library may not be able to regain its certification right away, this funding means the library can stay open more hours for our residents than it has been,” Kennedy said.

“Through Representative Vallee’s hard work and determination, the Franklin Police Department and the people of Franklin will benefit from the technology and communication grant monies he was able to secure,” said Stephen Williams, Franklin Chief of Police. “His commitment to our town and particularly to public safety is nothing short of outstanding.”

The House restored nearly \$37 million in appropriations to the \$26.8 billion state budget signed by Patrick in July, including \$2.35 million for the state’s Department of Fire Services and \$2

million for senior care at MassHealth. Patrick had vetoed nearly \$41 million.

The vetoes now await action from the Senate, where Vallee is hopeful he will receive support from his colleagues. “These are very important allocations for our towns,” he said. “Restoring this funding will surely help to provide more great services to Franklin and Medway residents.”

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