



Commonwealth of Massachusetts

OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER

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WILLIAM McNAMARA
COMPTROLLER

August 9, 2022

Secretary Michael Heffernan
Executive Office for Administration and Finance
State House, Room 373
Boston, MA 02133

The Honorable Aaron Michlewitz
Chair, House Committee on Ways and Means
State House, Room 243
Boston, MA 02133

The Honorable Michael J. Rodrigues
Chair, Senate Committee on Ways and Means
State House, Room 212
Boston, MA 02133

RE: Fiscal Year 2022 Capital Gains Tax Revenue Transfers to the Stabilization Fund,
the State Retiree Benefits Trust Fund, and the Pension Liability Fund

Dear Secretary Heffernan, Chair Michlewitz and Chair Rodrigues:

On July 27, 2022, the Department of Revenue certified to the Office of the Comptroller that through June 2022, Fiscal Year 2022 capital gains tax revenue totaled \$3,877,015,904.

[Section 5G of Chapter 29](#) of the Massachusetts General Laws, requires that capital gains tax revenue in excess of the fiscal year capital gains tax threshold be transferred as follows:

(i) 90% to the Commonwealth Stabilization Fund; (ii) 5% to the State Retiree Benefits Trust Fund (SRBTF); and (iii) 5% to the Commonwealth's Pension Liability Fund (PRIT). The Fiscal Year 2022 capital gains tax threshold is \$1,351,912,909. Therefore, in addition to previous capital gains tax transfers made in June 2022, I have processed the following incremental transfers totaling \$362,664,108, as shown below:

From the General Fund to:	Amount	% of total
i. Commonwealth Stabilization Fund	\$326,397,697.20	90%
ii. State Retiree Benefits Trust Fund (SRBTF)	\$18,133,205.40	5%
iii. Commonwealth's Pension Liability Fund (PRIT)	\$18,133,205.40	5%
Total	\$362,664,108.00	100%

This is the second such transfer under Section 5G of Chapter 29 for Fiscal Year 2022. The total amounts transferred in Fiscal Year 2022 pursuant to [Section 5G of Chapter 29](#) are as follows:

From the General Fund to:	Amount	% of total
i. Commonwealth Stabilization Fund	\$2,272,592,695.50	90%
ii. State Retiree Benefits Trust Fund (SRBTF)	\$126,255,149.75	5%
iii. Commonwealth's Pension Liability Fund (PRIT)	\$126,255,149.75	5%
Total	\$2,525,102,995.00	100%

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Kristin Lacroix, CTR's Chief Accounting Officer, at kristinm.lacroix@mass.gov or me at William.Mcnamara@mass.gov.

Sincerely,

William McNamara
Comptroller of the Commonwealth

Attachments:

- Attachment #1: Capital Gains Tax Certification Letter from Commissioner of Revenue
- Attachment #2: FY22 Capital Gains Threshold Certification from Department of Revenue

cc: Catharine Hornby, Undersecretary, Executive Office for Administration and Finance
Paul Chong, Finance Director, Executive Office for Administration and Finance
Katherine O'Reilly, Budget Director, House Committee on Ways and Means
Christopher Marino, Budget Director, Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Geoffrey E. Snyder, Commissioner, Department of Revenue
Kazim Ozyurt, Director, Office of Tax Policy Analysis, Department of Revenue
James MacDonald, First Deputy Treasurer, Office of the State Treasurer
Jeffrey Shapiro, First Deputy Comptroller, Office of the Comptroller



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Revenue
Office of the Commissioner
PO Box 7091
Boston, MA 02204-7091

GEOFFREY E. SNYDER
COMMISSIONER

July 27, 2022

William J. McNamara, Comptroller
Office of the Comptroller
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
One Ashburton Place, Room 901
Boston, MA 02108

Dear Comptroller McNamara:

Pursuant to Section 5G of Chapter 29 of the General Laws, the Department of Revenue (DOR) is required to certify to the State Comptroller, after each quarter during the fiscal year, the amount of tax revenues estimated to have been collected during the preceding quarter from capital gain income.

Because capital gains tax payments are remitted unevenly throughout the fiscal year according to tax filing deadlines, to ensure accurate reporting DOR certifies capital gains tax collections on the following schedule:

Period 1 (July 1 through September 30)

Period 2 (October 1 through January 31)

Period 3 (February 1 through May 31)

Period 4 (June 1 through June 30)

The table below shows capital gains tax revenue estimates for each of the certification periods, and for the full fiscal year 2022:

Capital Gains Tax Collections

Period	Period \$ millions	Fiscal year-to-date \$ millions
Period 1 (July 1, 2021 to September 30, 2021)	\$510.87	\$510.87
Period 2 (October 1, 2021 to January 31, 2022)	\$710.74	\$1,221.61
Period 3 (February 1, 2022 to May 31, 2022)	\$2,314.88	\$3,536.49
Period 4 (June 1, 2022 to June 30, 2022)	\$340.53	\$3,877.02

Based on currently available data, DOR hereby certifies that tax revenue estimated to have been collected from capital gain income was \$340.53 million during the fiscal year 2022 Period 4 (June 1, 2022 through June 30, 2022). The fiscal year 2022 full year tax revenue estimated to have been collected from capital gain income was \$3,877.02 million. These figures are subject to revision as DOR receives more data. Those changes will be reflected in the November 2022 final report of fiscal year 2022 tax revenue from capital gain income.

Under Section 5G of Chapter 29 of the General Laws, the amount of certified capital gains tax revenue collections over a defined threshold, which was previously set at \$1,351.91 million for FY22, is transferred to various funds as follows: 90% to the Commonwealth Stabilization Fund; 5% to the State Retiree Benefits Trust Fund; and 5% to the Commonwealth's Pension Liability Fund.

Therefore, this capital gains tax certification letter shall generate a transfer of approximately \$2,525.10 million, to the aforementioned funds as follows under Section 5G of Chapter 29 of the General Laws:

- 90% (~\$2,272.59 million) shall be transferred into the Commonwealth Stabilization Fund;
- 5% (~\$126.26 million) shall be transferred into the State Retiree Benefits Trust Fund; and
- 5% (~\$126.26 million) shall be transferred into the Commonwealth's Pension Liability Fund.

Based on the Period 3 certification letter issued by DOR on July 8, 2022,¹ the Comptroller has already transferred \$2,162.44 million to the aforementioned funds for FY2022 accordingly. Therefore, this certification letter requires additional transfers of approximately \$362.66 million into the same funds.

If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact Kazim P. Ozyurt, Director of the Office of Tax Analysis (ozyurtk@dor.state.ma.us).

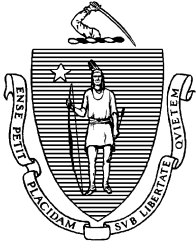
Sincerely,



Geoffrey E. Snyder
Commissioner

cc: Secretary Michael J. Heffernan, Executive Office for Administration and Finance
The Honorable Michael J. Rodrigues, Chair, Senate Committee on Ways and Means
The Honorable Aaron Michlewitz, Chair, House Committee on Ways and Means

¹ https://www.macomptroller.org/wp-content/uploads/transfer-schedule_2022-07-11.pdf



Geoffrey E. Snyder
Commissioner

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Revenue
Office of the Commissioner
P.O. Box 9550
Boston, MA 02114-9550

December 31, 2020

Mr. William J. McNamara
Comptroller
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
1 Ashburton Place, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02108

Dear Mr. McNamara:

Pursuant to Section 5G of Chapter 29 of the Massachusetts General Laws¹, and based on the procedure agreed upon by the Secretary of Administration and Finance and the Chairs of the House and Senate Committees on Ways and Means the Department of Revenue (DOR) hereby certifies that for the purpose of determining the amount of capital gains that will be transferred to the Commonwealth Stabilization Fund, the fiscal year 2022 capital gains tax collections threshold is \$1,351,912,909. Any fiscal year 2022 capital gains tax collections above that threshold, as certified by the Commissioner of Revenue, will be transferred to the Commonwealth Stabilization Fund. Please see attached table for our calculations.

If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact me (snyderge@dor.state.ma.us), or Kazim P. Ozyurt, Director of the Office of Tax Policy Analysis (ozyurtk@dor.state.ma.us).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Geoffrey E. Snyder".

Geoffrey E. Snyder
Commissioner

cc: Secretary Michael J. Heffernan, Executive Office for Administration and Finance
The Honorable Michael J. Rodrigues, Chair, Senate Committee on Ways and Means
The Honorable Aaron Michlewitz, Chair, House Committee on Ways and Means

¹ <http://www.malegislature.gov/Laws/GeneralLaws/PartI/TitleIII/Chapter29/Section5G>

Calculation of Fiscal Year 2022 Capital Gains Tax Threshold:

Nominal U.S. GDP - Five Years Ago: U.S. **Gross Domestic Product** (*) figures for the four quarters ending in third quarter of 2015 (**)

2014: Quarter 4	17,850
2015: Quarter 1	18,003
2015: Quarter 2	18,224
2015: Quarter 3	18,347
Average GDP five years ago:	18,106 A

Nominal U.S. GDP - Current: Most recently available U.S. **Gross Domestic Product** (*) figures for the four quarters ending in third quarter of 2020 (**)

2019: Quarter 4	21,747
2020: Quarter 1	21,561
2020: Quarter 2	19,520
2020: Quarter 3	21,170
Average current GDP:	21,000 B

Compound annual growth rate (CAGR)(*):** 3.0096374% $C = [(B / A)^{(1/5)}] - 1$

Fiscal Year 2021 Capital Gains Tax Threshold: \$1,312,414,006 D

1+ Compound annual growth rate (CAGR): 103.0096374% $E=(1+C)$

Fiscal Year 2022 Capital Gains Tax Threshold: \$1,351,912,909 $F=D * E$

(*) U.S. Gross Domestic Product figures are seasonally adjusted at annual rates and in billions of current dollars.

www.bea.gov/newsreleases/national/gdp/gdpnewsrelease.htm

(**) The 4th quarter of 2020 GDP figure is not available at the time when these calculations are conducted. The 3rd quarter of 2020 U.S. GDP figure ("third" estimate) was released by the Bureau of Economic Analysis on December 22, 2020.

(***) *Compound annual growth rate (CAGR)* = $[(\text{Average current GDP} / \text{Average GDP five years ago}) \text{ to the power } (1/5)] - 1$