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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **Local Legislators Announce Highway Safety Grants Awarded to Local Communities**

**BOSTON – Senator Anne M. Gobi (D-Spencer), Representative Todd M. Smola (R-Warren), and Representative Donald R. Berthiaume, Jr. (R-Spencer)** are pleased to announce that Palmer, Sturbridge and Ware have been awarded federal funding to promote highway safety. The Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security will soon be releasing \$7,500 to all three towns as part of the “Traffic Enforcement Grant Program.” These resources allow local police departments to increase “High Visibility Enforcement” patrols which coincide with statewide campaigns such as “Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over” and “Click It or Ticket.”

“Congratulations to Palmer, Sturbridge and Ware on being awarded these federal funds. High Visibility Enforcement is a simple and effective strategy for promoting driver safety and will surely be welcome in these highly travelled towns,” said Senator Gobi.

“As we approach the holidays, these additional patrols will encourage people to make smart decisions while out on the road,” said Representative Smola. “I am very pleased that our local officials and police departments were able to secure these funds.”

“Congratulations to the towns of Ware, Palmer, and Sturbridge on acquiring this much needed public safety funding,” Representative Berthiaume said. “The targeted aspects of this award will ensure the enhanced safety and security of all residents using the roadways within these communities.”

In addition to the “Traffic Enforcement Grants,” Sturbridge will be receiving grants of \$7,464 for “Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Enforcement and Equipment,” \$4,970 for “Underage Alcohol Enforcement” and \$2,000 for “Child Passenger Safety Equipment.” These resources can be used

to in a variety of ways based on the specific needs of the local community. These initiatives include increasing the compliance with traffic laws by pedestrians, bicyclists and pedestrians; the purchase of new signs and materials; alcohol compliance checks; and the purchase of child passenger safety seats.

For additional information please contact Representative Smola at [Todd.Smola@mahouse.gov](mailto:Todd.Smola@mahouse.gov) or (617)722-2100.

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