

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
**MASSACHUSETTS SENATE**  
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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **Senator Anne Gobi Secures Funding for Local Projects in FY16 Budget**

**BOSTON** – As the Massachusetts Senate debates their funding proposals for the Fiscal Year 2016 Budget, State Senator Anne M. Gobi (D-Spencer) has been very active in working to secure funding for local projects in the Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire, and Middlesex District. Gobi was able to ensure that over \$480,000 was dedicated to a range of initiatives including restoring funding lost through Governor Baker's 9C cuts, improving municipal facilities, and establishing vital regional programs.

Sen. Gobi successfully advocated for the restoration of funding for several projects that were cut by Governor Baker's 9C cuts earlier this year. These projects include \$94,000 in funding for the Civil War Monument in the town of Barre, \$150,000 in funding for the Citizen Soldiers Monument in the town of Spencer, and \$85,000 for the construction of a playground in Templeton. Restoring funding for these projects previously allocated to these municipalities ensures that they will be able to move forward as planned.

"I am always glad to advocate for local projects. I believe strongly in keeping promises and because many of these projects lost funding because of 9C cuts it was only right that the funding be restored," said Sen. Gobi. "In some cases Towns had already raised and distributed funds or had signed contracts. I will continue to work to make sure the funding stays during the rest of the budget process."

Sen. Gobi also was able to secure an additional \$75,000 in funding for the North Quabbin Chamber of Commerce for the purpose of establishing a regional tourism council. The Commonwealth's investment in the creation of this tourism council will be repaid in future years by the benefits it will bring to the North Quabbin Region.

An amendment filed by Sen. Gobi providing \$30,000 to the town of Charlton was also adopted. These funds will be expended as a planning grant for the town for a new water system. Senator Gobi was previously able to secure funding for this project in the 2014 Environmental Bond Bill, but these funds will go towards the design and commencement of the project.

Gobi also oversaw the passage of an amendment securing \$50,000 in funding for the town of Winchendon Senior Center, which is to be used to build a handicap bathroom on the premises. This important investment will enable all citizens of the town to better enjoy the senior center.

Sen. Gobi has long advocated for programs essential to the region. She brings thirteen years of budget experience in the Massachusetts House of Representatives to her first budget debate as State Senator of the Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire and Middlesex District.

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