

House Approves \$7M for Cultural Facilities Fund

- October 13, 2007

NORTH ADAMS – The House of Representatives voted Thursday to allocate \$7 million to the Cultural Facilities Fund through supplemental budget that closes the books on fiscal 2007, according to state Rep. Daniel E. Bosley, D-North Adams.

"The Cultural Facilities Fund has provided monies for the Berkshire Athenaeum, the Berkshire Museum, Sterling and Francine Clark Institute, Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art and Hancock Shaker Village Inc.," said Bosley. "These cultural organizations expose the residents of Massachusetts to many cultural activities, such as music, art, theater and film. They also draw many people from outside our border, bolstering our tourism industry."

Dan Hunter, executive director of the Massachusetts Advocates for the Arts, Sciences and Humanities, said, "The additional \$7 million for the Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Fund will grow our economy, create jobs and strengthen our cities and towns — it is an investment in our cultural and historic legacy as well as in our economic future."

On behalf of the statewide cultural community, MAASH thanks Speaker Sal DiMasi, Rep. Dan Bosley, Chairman of the Committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies and the entire Berkshire delegation for their vision and leadership," he continued.

"Today, we made this fund whole, and are hopeful that other venues will be able to benefit," said Bosley. "We owe Speaker DiMasi a debt of gratitude for understanding that these cultural facilities are important and valued economic engines in our economy."