



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

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**SENATE PASSES LEGISLATION TO FREEZE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE RATE HIKE**

**Boston** – The Massachusetts Senate today voted to pass legislation to freeze an upcoming hike in the unemployment insurance contribution rate for employers. Senators Michael O. Moore (D-Millbury) and Harriette I. Chandler (D-Worcester) voted in favor of the measure.

The bill, *An Act Relative to Unemployment Insurance Rates*, would freeze the Unemployment Insurance (UI) Trust Fund assessment at its current schedule. Without this rate freeze, Massachusetts employers would have seen their average per-employee assessment increase from \$644 to \$872, a jump of 35.5%.

“I am pleased that the Senate was able to take this measure to protect small businesses from unnecessary costs,” said Sen. Moore. “As our economy continues to recover, it is important that the Commonwealth act in a way that fosters growth and success amongst our local and small business community.”

“This legislation will prevent burdensome cost increases for Massachusetts’ businesses and is a key step forward in encouraging economic growth and job creation in our state,” said Sen. Chandler.

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