



Massachusetts  
Taxpayers Foundation

**FY 2025 House  
Amendments**  
*By the Numbers*



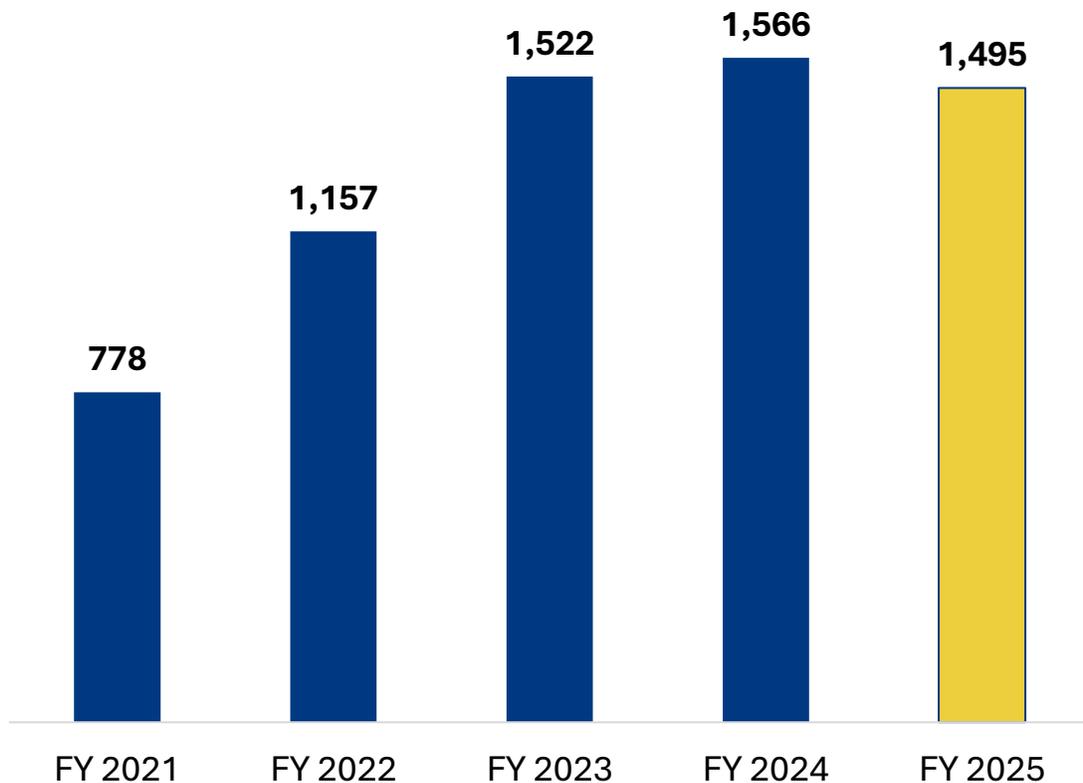
# FY 2025 House Amendments

## 5 Things to Know:

1. House members filed **1,495 amendments**, 71 fewer than in FY 2024 and 27 fewer than in FY 2023.
2. The fiscal impact of all amendments is **\$2.02billion**.\*  
\*This estimate may be conservative, the fiscal impact for all amendments is not yet known.
3. Over **70% (1,095)** of the amendments are earmarks.
4. Approximately **25% (400)** of the amendments are outside policy sections, support programmatic funding increases, or introduce new line-item language.
5. Between FY 2022 – FY 2024, an average of **\$108 million** in additional spending was added during House Debate.

# Amendment Historical Context

## Filed Amendments by Fiscal Year



- House members filed **1,495** amendments to the FY 2025 HWM budget.
  - 71 fewer than in FY 2024.
  - 27 fewer than in FY 2023.
- Between FY 2014 – FY 2024, House members filed an average of 1,225 amendments.
- FY 2021 reflects the impacts of the pandemic. The House did not debate the budget until November 2021.

# Amendments by Type

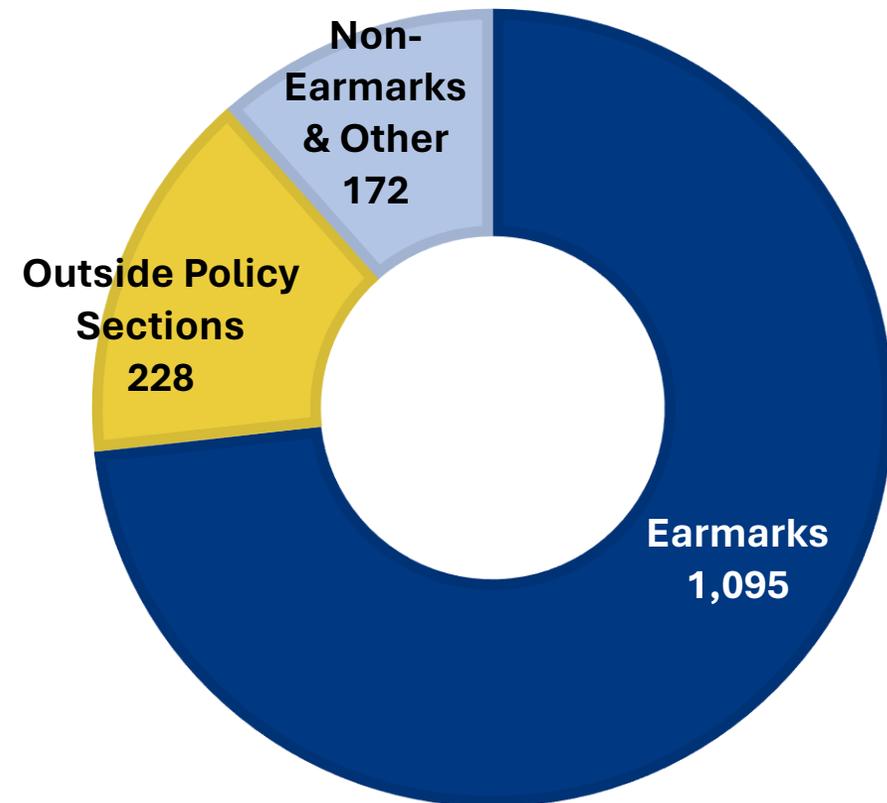
**73%** of amendments filed to the HWM budget are **earmarks**.

**15%** of amendments filed to the HWM budget are **outside policy sections**.

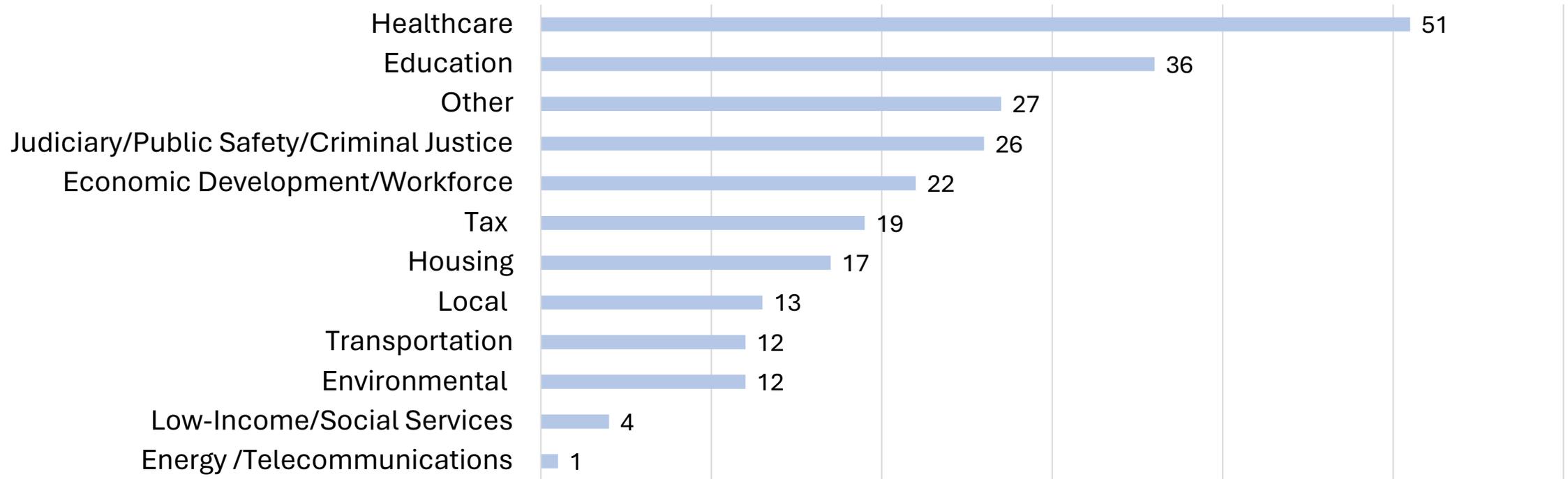
The remaining **12%**:

- Add new line-items to the HWM budget
- Increase line-item appropriations without a designated purpose
- Introduce new line-item language.
- Amend inside and outside policy language.

House Amendments by Type



# Policy Amendments by Category

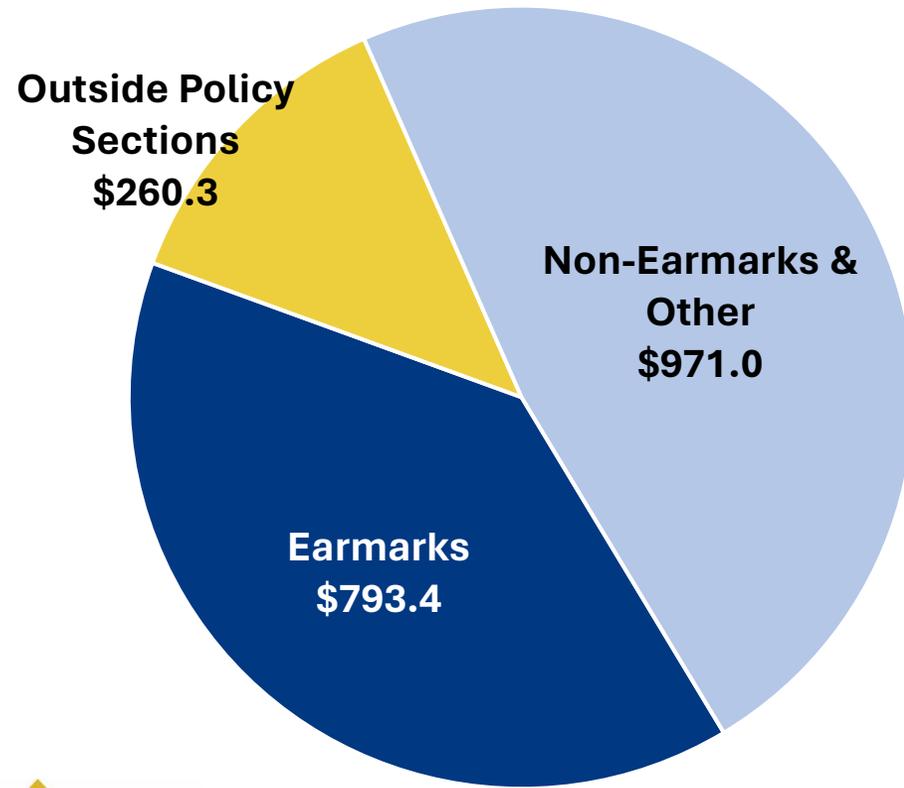


The most common policy area for outside section amendments is **Healthcare**, followed by **Education** and **Judiciary/Public Safety/Criminal Justice** policy proposals.

19 outside policy proposals are related to **Taxes**, and 12 are related to **Transportation**.

# Fiscal Impact of Amendments

## Fiscal Impact of House Amendments by Type



The estimated fiscal impact of all amendments filed to the House Budget is **\$2.02 billion**.

Amendments that would provide programmatic funding increases carry the largest fiscal impacts.

Notable high-cost amendments are related to housing & education programs, including proposals for:

- Chapter 70 State Aid for Public Schools.
- Emergency Assistance Shelter
- Public Higher Education Capital Needs

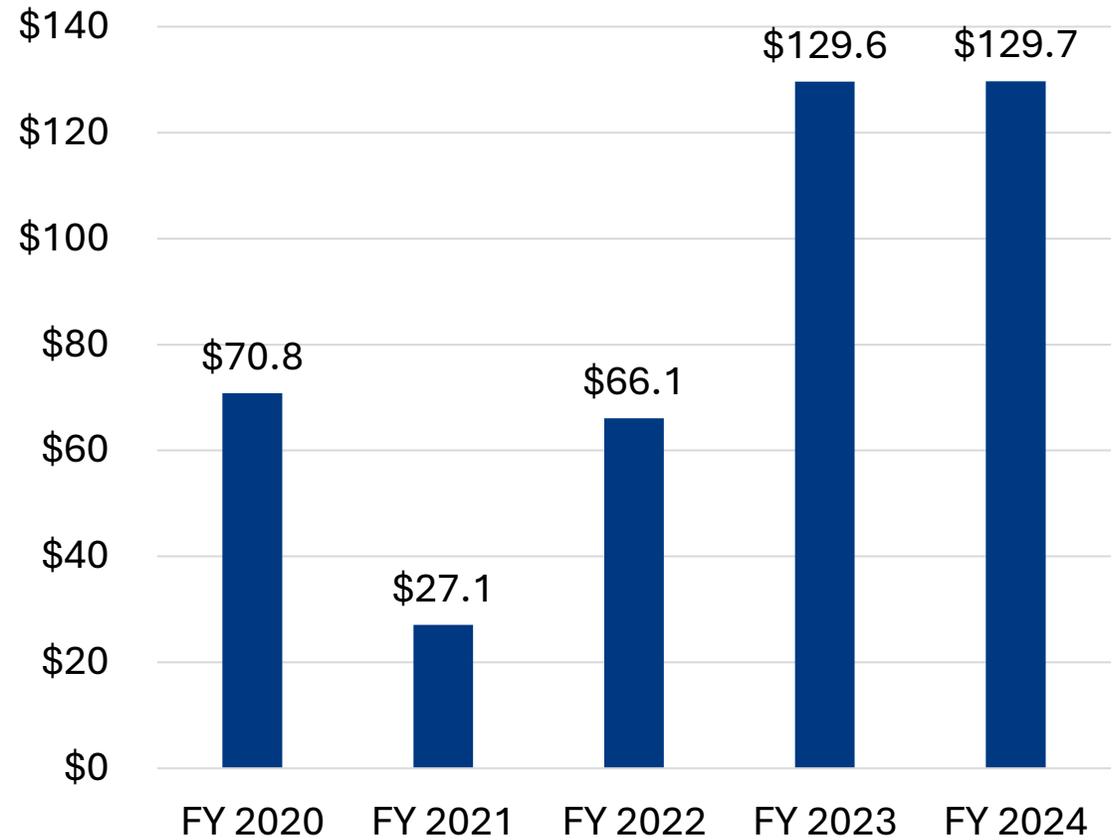
# House Debate Preview

In FY 2024, the House added **\$129.7 million** in spending during debate, an essentially equal amount to what was added in FY 2023 (\$129.6 million).

Between FY 2022 and FY 2024, an average of **\$108.5 million** in spending was added to the HWM budget during debate.

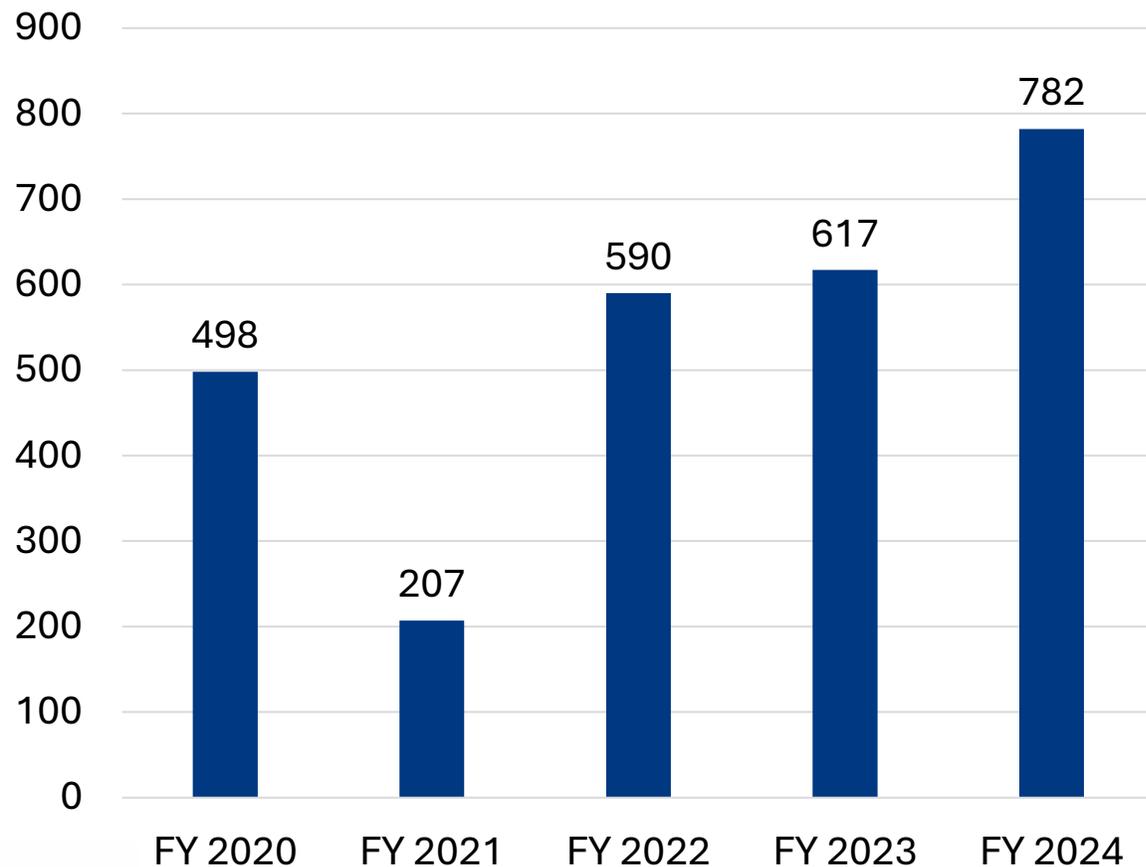
\*In FY 2021, the budget debate process was impacted by the pandemic.

House Debate Spending by Year



# House Debate Preview

Adopted Earmarks by Year



In FY 2024, the House adopted some form of at least 773 amendments, **49%** of all that were filed.

Within those amendments, the House added **782 earmarks** to the budget for specific communities, organizations, and projects.

**64%** of new spending added during House debate supported local earmarks.

# House Debate Preview

While total floor spending & adopted earmarks have increased in recent years, the number of adopted policy amendments adopted in FY 2024 decreased.

Last year, the HWM budget included 47 outside sections out of committee and **45 policy amendments were adopted on the floor.**

Adopted Policy Amendments

