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MASSACHUSETTS COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS

Committed to ensuring that everyone has a place to call home

December 17, 2014

Today's Action to Support the Unaccompanied Youth Homelessness Bill, House Bill 4517:

Please Ask Your Senator to Sign onto the Letter Authored by Senators Eldridge and Lewis to Senate Ways and Means!

Quick Links

[Coalition's home page](#)

[Text of House Bill 4517, the current version of the unaccompanied youth homelessness bill](#)

[Bill fact sheet](#)

[Youth Without Homes Can't Wait: The Voices of Unaccompanied Youth](#)

[Report on Massachusetts Youth Count 2014](#) from the Special Commission on Unaccompanied Homeless Youth)

[Overview of the lawmaking process in Massachusetts](#)

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Dear friend,

As we reported last Thursday, the House of Representatives passed the unaccompanied youth homelessness bill, [House Bill 4517](#). On Monday, the bill was assigned to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means. **We need your help in getting as many Senators as possible to weigh in with Senate Ways and Means Chair Stephen Brewer and the Committee in support of the bill's passage.** The bill has to be released by Senate Ways and Means before it can be voted on by the full Senate, and time is running out.

We are grateful to Senator Jamie Eldridge of Acton and Senator Jason Lewis of Winchester for leading the effort to circulate a Senate sign-on letter addressed to Chairman Brewer. Please reach out to your Senator today to ask her/him to participate in this letter by signing on through Sen. Eldridge's office by tomorrow morning. (See the next box for more details.)

Your actions can make this holiday season brighter for the thousands of youth and young adults across the Commonwealth who are experiencing homelessness out on their own, without a parent or guardian. Click [here for an updated bill fact sheet](#). Please also [click here to read some of the stories from youth and young adults](#) who have been without homes, and who would benefit from this legislation and subsequent legislative actions in support of unaccompanied youth.

Please take action today to help ensure that the bill crosses the finish line this session and is signed into law by the Governor.

Thank you for your continued support!

With gratitude,

Find us on Facebook 

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Follow us on 

Current List of Signers on the Letter to Senator Brewer and Senate Ways and Means (as of 10 a.m., in alphabetical order)

- Senator Barrett of Lexington
- Senator Chandler of Worcester
- Senator Chang-Diaz of Boston
- Senator DiDomenico of Everett
- Senator Donnelly of Arlington
- Senator Eldridge of Acton
- Senator Jehlen of Somerville
- Senator Lewis of Winchester
- Senator Spilka of Ashland

If your Senator is on the list, please thank her/him. If not, please ask your Senator to sign on today or tomorrow morning by contacting Minney Varghese in Senator Eldridge's office: minney.varghese@masenate.gov or 617-722-1120.

To find out who your State Senator is, please go to www.wheredoivotema.com or to this [Legislator search page](#).

Thank you!

#YouthWithoutHomesCantWait



To see more pictures of supporters from across the Commonwealth, please [click here](#) and [here](#), too.

Annual Interfaith Memorial Service for Those Who Died Without a Home: Please Join the Coalition This Friday, 12/19 in Boston

December 19, 2014
Church on the Hill
140 Bowdoin Street ~ Beacon Hill
Boston, MA 02108
12:00 PM

Please Note that this year's
Service will be held on
December 19, not December 21

25th NATIONAL

Homeless Persons Interfaith Memorial Service



HOMELESS PERSONS' MEMORIAL DAY DECEMBER 21 (SERVICE HELD DECEMBER 19)

The First Day of Winter. The Longest Night of the Year.
Homeless people die from illnesses that affect everyone,

frequently without health care.

Health care is a human right.

Housing is a human right.

Physical safety is a human right.

Remember our neighbors
and friends who have died
without homes.

Homeless people die from violence,
often in unprovoked hate crimes.

Remember why they died.

For more information contact Michael Bancewicz @ 617-304-4848 - moxie12794@aol.com

For more information, please contact Michael Bancewicz of the Church on the Hill at 617-304-4848 or moxie12794@aol.com.

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Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless

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