



MASSACHUSETTS COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS

# LEGISLATIVE ACTION DAY



Committed to ensuring that everyone has a place to call home.

## Meetings with Legislators and Legislative Staff Members: Purpose and Goals

- 1. To make sure your State Representative and State Senator know that you are concerned about homelessness, and that they know the budget and bill priorities you want them to support as related to housing, homelessness, and poverty.**
- 2. To find out where your legislators stand on issues of particular concern, such as:**
  - Increasing or maintaining funding for the specific programs you raise during your meeting.
  - Protecting key housing, homelessness prevention, income, and emergency shelter programs from proposed budget cuts and eligibility changes.
  - Maintaining income taxes at current levels or raising revenue in a progressive manner in order to fund critical programs.
- 3. To find out about which issues or concerns your legislators feel strongly (either positively or negatively).**
- 4. To advocate for the inclusion of your priorities in their short list of issues they raise with legislative leadership in discussions about the upcoming fiscal year 2020 state budget.**
  - *For Representatives* - Ask your Representative to speak with Speaker Robert DeLeo and House Ways and Means Chair Aaron Michlewitz about these priorities and ask them to include these items in the House budget.
  - *For Senators* – Ask your Senator to speak with Senate President Karen Spilka and Senate Ways and Means Chair Michael Rodrigues about these priorities and ask them to include these items in the Senate budget.

**After your meetings, please take a few minutes to let us know how your meeting went and what was discussed. Your feedback will help inform our follow-up at the State House.**

To share your feedback, please go to <https://goo.gl/forms/Obu4lClryRPL3EO13> or fill out the paper copy in your packet. (The form also is linked on our Legislative Action Day page: [www.mahomeless.org/advocacy/item/legislative-action-day-2019](http://www.mahomeless.org/advocacy/item/legislative-action-day-2019).) Thank you!