



MASSACHUSETTS COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS

LEGISLATIVE ACTION DAY



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

Schedule for the March 2, 2023 Plenary Session via Zoom

9:30 a.m.

General Welcome

Kelly Turley, Associate Director, Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless

9:35 a.m.

Legislative Welcome

Representative Jim O'Day, House Fourth Division Chair; lead sponsor of An Act relative to assisting elders and people with disabilities in the Commonwealth (a.k.a. the EAEDC bill) and An Act to provide identification to youth and adults experiencing homelessness (a.k.a. Mass ID access bill); lead sponsor of youth homelessness budget amendments; and sponsor of Legislative Action Day (14th Worcester District)

9:40 a.m.

Remarks from Elected Officials

Representative Smitty Pignatelli, House Vice Chair, Joint Committee on Rules, and lead sponsor of An Act establishing a bill of rights for individuals experiencing homelessness (3rd Berkshire District)

Senator Becca Rausch, Senate Chair, Joint Committee on Environment and Natural Resources; Senate Vice Chair, Joint Committee on Children, Families, and Persons with Disabilities; Vice Chair of the Senate Committee on the Census; and lead sponsor of An Act providing a bill of rights for people experiencing homelessness (Norfolk, Worcester, and Middlesex District)

Senator Adam Gomez, Senate Chair, Joint Committee on Cannabis Policy; Senate Vice Chair, Joint Committee on Racial Equity, Civil Rights, and Inclusion; Senate Vice Chair, Joint Committee on Election Laws; and lead sponsor of An Act improving emergency housing assistance for children and families experiencing homelessness, An Act allowing certain minors to consent to shelter and receive supportive services, An Act establishing a Massachusetts foreclosure prevention program, and An Act to end housing discrimination in the commonwealth (Hampden District)

10:05 a.m.

Remarks and Recommendations from Families, Adults, and Coalition Members on the Importance of Passing Key Legislation and Budget Language on Housing, Homelessness, and Benefits Programs

Nora Barr, Clinical Coordinator of the Flexible Services Program, Eliot Community Human Services

Andrea Park, Director of Community Driven Advocacy, Massachusetts Law Reform Institute

Norieeliz DeJesus, Policy and Organizing Director, La Colaborativa

Mark Martinez, Housing Staff Attorney, Massachusetts Law Reform Institute

Marybeth Bacigalupo-Worden, Member, Worcester Fellowship

Carlton Johnson, Program Manager, Hearth, Inc.

Lashaunda, Community Member and Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program Participant

10:45 a.m. **Remarks from Elected Officials**

Representative Christine Barber, House Vice Chair, Joint Committee on the Judiciary, and lead sponsor of An Act promoting housing stability for families by strengthening the HomeBASE program and An Act establishing a Massachusetts foreclosure prevention program (34th Middlesex District)

Senator Sal DiDomenico, Senate Assistant Majority Leader; Chair, Senate Committee on Bills in the Third Reading; Senate Vice Chair, Joint Committee on Education; and lead sponsor of An Act to lift kids out of deep poverty and An Act promoting access to counsel and housing stability in Massachusetts (Middlesex and Suffolk District)

Senator Pat Jehlen, Senate Chair, Joint Committee on Elder Affairs and Joint Committee on Labor and Workforce Development; Senate Vice Chair, Joint Committee on Public Service; and lead sponsor of An Act relative to assisting elders and people with disabilities in the Commonwealth and An Act enabling cities and towns to stabilize rents and protect tenants (Second Middlesex District)

Representative Marjorie Decker, House Chair of the Joint Committee on Public Health, and lead sponsor of An Act providing upstream homelessness prevention assistance to families, youth, and adults, An Act improving emergency housing assistance for children and families experiencing homelessness, and An Act to lift kids out of deep poverty (25th Middlesex District)

11:15 a.m. **Tips for Meeting with Legislative Offices**

Julia Shields, Legislative Intern, Boston University/Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless

Kelly Turley, Associate Director, Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless

11:25 a.m. **Closing Remarks and Send-Off for Legislative Visits**

Julia Garvey, Community Organizer/Legislative Advocate, Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless

Kelly Turley, Associate Director, Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless

Schedule for the Afternoon and Weeks Ahead

12:00–3:00 p.m. **Virtual Meetings with Legislators**

SO THAT EVERYONE HAS A PLACE TO CALL

HOME