



MASSACHUSETTS COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS

LEGISLATIVE ACTION DAY



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

Schedule for the March 7, 2024 Plenary Session in the Great Hall

9:30 a.m. **Registration and Light Breakfast**

10:05 a.m. **Welcome**

Kelly Turley, Associate Director, Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless

10:10 a.m. **Remarks from Legislators**

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)

Senator Pat Jehlen, Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Elder Affairs and the Joint Committee on Labor and Workforce Development, Senate Vice Chair of the 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)

Senator Liz Miranda, Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Racial Equity, Civil Rights, and Inclusion, Senate Vice Chair of the Joint Committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies, and lead sponsor of An Act promoting housing stability for families by strengthening the HomeBASE program (Second Suffolk District)

Representative Christine Barber, House Vice Chair of the 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 Becca Rausch, Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Environment and Natural Resources, Senate Vice Chair of the 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 Robyn Kennedy, Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities, Senate Vice Chair of the Joint Committee on Cannabis Policy, and lead sponsor of An Act to provide identification to youth and adults experiencing homelessness (a.k.a. Mass ID access bill) (First Worcester District)

Senator Lydia Edwards, Senate Chair, Joint Committee on Housing and Senate Vice Chair, Joint Committee on the Judiciary (Third Suffolk District)

Representative Kay Khan, lead sponsor of An Act to Provide Identification to Youth and Adults Experiencing Homelessness (a.k.a. Mass ID access bill) (11th Middlesex District)

Representative Jim O'Day, House of Representatives 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), and sponsor of Legislative Action Day (14th Worcester District)

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

11:00 a.m.

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

Doctor Aura Obando, MD, Family Team Medical Director, Boston Health Care for the Homeless Program and Instructor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School

Doctor Aisha James, MD, Adult & Pediatric Primary Care Physician, MGH Everett Family Care

Donnie Lee Renrick, Street Advocate and Activist/Founder/President of Bostonstreetunion.com

Mari Brooks, Associate, Breaktime

Tri Tran, Director of Public Policy, Rosie's Place

Jack Diaz, Associate, Breaktime

Marybeth Bacigalupo-Worden, Member, Worcester Fellowship

Reverend Doctor Sandy Range, Founder/Board Chair/CEO, Grandmothers' Village Project (remarks to be presented by Enyonam Edoh, Master of Public Health Candidate, Tufts University School of Medicine)

Calvena DeVoe, Advocate/Activist

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

11:50 a.m.

Tips for Meeting with Legislative Offices

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

11:55 a.m.

Closing Remarks and Send-Off for Legislative Visits

Kelly Turley, Associate Director, Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless

Schedule for the Afternoon and Weeks Ahead

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

SO THAT EVERYONE HAS A PLACE TO CALL

HOME