



MASSACHUSETTS COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS

Committed to ensuring that everyone has a place to call home

May 11, 2017

Greetings!

Next Tuesday, the Massachusetts Senate Committee on Ways and Means is expected to release its version of the FY'18 state budget. **Please take one minute today to weigh in with your State Senator in advance of the Senate budget release and subsequent debate by signing our [simple online action](#).**

We are asking Senators to actively support the [Coalition's key budget priorities](#) throughout the Senate debate process, after the budget moves to the Joint Conference Committee, and until the budget is finalized. To [be part of the action](#), all you have to do is enter your address, then your name, and hit send. It is that simple! Have more to say? You also can personalize the action letter to your Senator to say why investments in homelessness prevention, housing, and benefits programs are so critical. Click here to [sign the online action](#), and then please share the link! *It is an extremely tight budget year, with many competing priorities, so your letters truly can make a difference.*

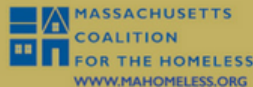
Please also stay tuned next week for [our analysis](#) of the Senate Ways and Means budget recommendations and needed next steps to influence the Senate budget debate. Last month, with your calls, online letters, phone calls, and visits, we were able to secure many cosponsors for [key House budget amendments](#). We'll send you details on how you can help do it again, with even more energy and impact this month.

Please sign our online action to your State Senator in support of key homelessness/housing items in the Senate's FY'18 budget recommendations.

Sign the action here: <https://tinyurl.com/fy18senate>



Learn more at www.mahomeless.org/advocacy.



In other news, today is Day 11 of the Massachusetts Commission on Unaccompanied Homeless Youth' [4th annual Massachusetts Youth Count](#). The Massachusetts Youth Count mobilizes youth, young adults, Continua of Care, and youth providers to survey young people under the age of 25 from all across the Commonwealth who are experiencing homelessness and housing instability. The insights and data gathered from the survey process are used to influence advocacy and programming to address youth and young adult homelessness.

Thank you for all of your help so far in getting out the word about the count, taking the survey, and encouraging youth and young adults age 24 and younger to get involved. The survey period officially runs until this Sunday night, May 14th, but some communities will continue the count a bit longer into May.

The [English language survey](#) can be downloaded here. Paper surveys in [Spanish](#), [Haitian Kreyol](#), [Cape Verdean Creole](#), [Khmer/Cambodian](#), and [Brazilian Portuguese](#) are available to download, and an **online English/Spanish version of the survey is at this [Survey Monkey link](#)**.

How can you help?

- Please share the [survey link](#) with any young people you know
- [Post the flyer](#) in a visible place in your community

- Follow the [Youth Count Facebook page](#), [Twitter feed](#), and [Instagram page](#)
- Share social media posts and use the hashtags #MAYouthCount and #YouthWithoutHomesCantWait

More details and array of downloadable materials in PDF form are available on our [Youth Count webpage](#).

For more information about the Coalition's advocacy on addressing and ending youth and young adult homelessness, please click here: [unaccompanied youth and young adult homelessness page](#) or contact [Kelly](#).

Thank you for your collaboration!

-Kelly

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*To have your organization endorse the Coalition's [FY'18 youth and young adult homelessness budget campaign](#), please complete this [short endorsement form](#).



Many of us don't fit the stereotype of being "homeless" but could use support with housing and resources.



We are resilient. We are real. We are survivors. We are human. We are more than just a number.

Massachusetts is trying to better understand and meet the needs of youth and young adults who experience housing instability.

IF YOU ARE UNDER 25, TAKE THE CONFIDENTIAL YOUTH COUNT SURVEY MAY 1-14, 2017.

Data from this survey will impact funding and services for young adults experiencing housing instability.

www.surveymonkey.com/r/massyouth

Learn more at www.facebook.com/MAYouthCount or by emailing massachusettsyouthcount@gmail.com.

With strength from unity, we can make our voices heard!

*Massachusetts Youth Count is a project of the
Massachusetts Commission on Unaccompanied Homeless Youth.*

STAY CONNECTED:



