



MASSACHUSETTS COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS

LEGISLATIVE ACTION DAY



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

Thursday, February 27, 2020 · Great Hall, Massachusetts State House

Schedule for the Morning Plenary Session (as of February 26th)

- 9:00 a.m. **Light Breakfast and Check-in/Registration**
- 9:35 a.m. **Welcome and Overview of the Coalition's FY'21 Budget and 2019-2020 Bill Priorities**
Kelly Turley, Associate Director, Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless
Marwa Sayed, Community Organizer/Legislative Advocate, Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless
- 9:55 a.m. **Remarks from Elected Officials, Part 1**
Senator Sal DiDomenico, Assistant Majority Leader, Chair of the Senate Committee on Bills in the Third Reading, and lead sponsor of An Act to Lift Kids Out of Deep Poverty and An Act to Ensure Right to Counsel in Eviction Proceedings
- 10:00 a.m. **Keynote Address: Advocating for Housing Access and Housing Stability for the Lowest Income Families and Individuals in Massachusetts and Across the United States**
Diane Yentel, President and CEO, National Low Income Housing Coalition
- 10:20 a.m. **Remarks from Elected Officials, Part 2**
Representative Kevin Honan, House Chair of the Joint Committee on Housing
Senator Becca Rausch, Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Municipalities and Regional Government, Vice Chair of the Joint Committee on Elder Affairs, and lead sponsor of An Act Providing a Bill of Rights for People Experiencing Homelessness and An Act Relative to the Safety, Dignity, and Civil Rights of Persons Experiencing Homelessness
Senate President Emerita Harriette Chandler, Vice Chair of the Senate Committee on Bills in the Third Reading, Vice Chair of the Joint Committee on Health Care Financing, and lead sponsor of An Act to Provide Identification to Homeless Youth and Families
Representative James O'Day, House Chair of the Joint Committee on Municipalities and Regional Government, lead sponsor of An Act Relative to Assisting Elders and People with Disabilities in the Commonwealth (a.k.a. the EAEDC bill), lead sponsor of youth homelessness budget amendments, and sponsor of Legislative Action Day
Senator Sonia Chang-Díaz, Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Children, Families, and Persons with Disabilities and Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Cannabis Policy, and/or *Maia Raynor*, Legislative Aide, Office of Senator Sonia Chang-Díaz
Representative Marjorie Decker, House Chair of the Joint Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use, and Recovery, and lead sponsor of An Act to Further Provide a Rental Arrearage Program, An Act to Protect Families Experiencing Homelessness from Having to Sleep in Unsafe Places, and An Act to Reduce Deep Poverty among Kids

11:10 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**

Andrea Park, Staff Attorney, Massachusetts Law Reform Institute

Dr. Amanda Stewart, M.D., Boston Pediatrician

Kaytie, Facilitator, Boston Youth Action Board

Shyanne, Youth, Lynn Shelter Association

Shamika Bowens, Program Participant, Boston Health Care for the Homeless Program

Marybeth Worden, Member, Worcester Fellowship

Ruth, Community Speaker and Client Board Member, Greater Boston Legal Services

Naomi Meyer, Senior Attorney, Greater Boston Legal Services

12:05 p.m. **Remarks from Elected Officials, Part 3**

Representative Denise Provost, lead sponsor of An Act to End Child Homelessness

Representative Kay Khan, House Chair of the Joint Committee on Children, Families, and Persons with Disabilities, and lead sponsor of An Act to Provide Identification to Homeless Youth and Families

12:20 p.m. **Tips for Meeting with Legislative Offices**

Marwa Sayed, Community Organizer/Legislative Advocate, Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless

Kelly Turley, Associate Director, Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless

12:25 p.m. **Closing Remarks and Send-Off for Legislative Visits**

Kelly Turley, Associate Director, Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless

Schedule for the Afternoon

1:00 – 3:00 p.m. **Meetings with Legislators throughout the State House**

All participants are invited to meet with their State Legislators and their staff. Please check in at the legislative visit table with Coalition staff and volunteers before heading to your meetings, and if time allows, come back to the table after your meetings to share feedback with us.

SO THAT EVERYONE HAS A PLACE TO CALL

HOME