



2011-2012 Legislative Priorities

An Act to Invest in Our Communities

(House Bill 2553, Senate Bill 1416)

Lead House: Rep. Jim O'Day; **Lead Senate:** Sen. Sonia Chang-Diaz

House: Balsler, Brady, Coakley-Rivera, Curran, Fresolo, Garballey, Kane, Lewis, Malia, Mark, O'Day, Provost, Puppolo, Sciortino, Smizik, Story, Turner, Wolf

Senate: Chang-Diaz, Donnelly, Eldridge, Jehlen.

Why is "An Act to Invest in Our Communities" needed?

Massachusetts is facing a nearly \$2Billion budget deficit yet the services and programs that help keep our communities strong are needed more than ever. We must take a balanced approach to the fiscal crisis and raise additional revenue so that we can maintain the services we need and value.

What the "Act to Invest in Our Communities" Bill does:

- 1) Raises \$1.2 Billion dollars in additional revenue to maintain funding for our Communities, schools, healthcare and programs for our most vulnerable.
- 2) Lowers the tax bill for most families by raising the income tax rate from 5.3% to 5.95% while increasing the personal exemption from \$4,400 to \$7,900.
- 3) Raises the tax on interest, dividends and capital gains for wealthy investors from 5.3% up to 8.95% with an exemption for low and middle income seniors.

Medicare for All

(House Bill 338, Senate Bill 501)

Lead Senate Sponsor: Jamie Eldridge **Lead House Sponsor:** Jason Lewis

House: Andrews, Atkins, Balsler, Brownsberger, Canavan, Cariddi, Devers, Fox, Fresolo, Garlick, Gobi, Hecht, Khan, Kocot, Kulik, Madden, Mark, McMurtry, O'Day, Peake, Pignatelli, Provost, Rushing, Sannicandro, Scibak, Sciortino, Smizik, Speranzo, Story, Swan, Toomey, Turner, Walz, Wolf

Senate: Chang-Diaz, Creem, DiDomenico, Donnelly, Downing, Fargo, Jehlen, McGee, Rosenberg

Why is Medicare for All Needed?

Massachusetts cannot afford to extend good health coverage to all residents under the current health insurance system, and rising health care costs are destroying state, municipal, business, and household budgets.

What the Massachusetts "Medicare for All" Bill Does:

- 1) Guarantees first class health care coverage for every Massachusetts resident
 - 2) Reduces costs to the state, employers, and households.
 - 3) Creates a comprehensive, public plan like improved Medicare for all,
- Saves \$9.7 billion by eliminating for-profit middlemen and administrative waste.

as of 3/9/11