



THE GENERAL COURT OF MASSACHUSETTS  
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1053

To: The Massachusetts Congressional Delegation  
cc: Senator-Elect Warren, Congressman-Elect Kennedy  
From: Undersigned Massachusetts Legislators

In this time of your critical discussions over the Federal budget, we wish to call your attention to the expressed desires of many Massachusetts voters on these national budgetary matters. On November 6 voters in 91 cities and towns across the Commonwealth voted in favor of the following non-binding public policy question by a 3 to 1 margin. The measure passed in every city and town in which it was on the ballot:

The question called for the state representative and state senator in each district to call upon our Congressional delegation to:

1. Prevent cuts to Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, and Veterans benefits, or to housing, food and unemployment assistance;
2. Create and protect jobs by investing in manufacturing, schools, housing, renewable energy, transportation and other public services;
3. Provide new revenues for these purposes and to reduce the long-term federal deficit by closing corporate tax loopholes, ending offshore tax havens, and raising taxes on incomes over \$250,000; and
4. Redirect military spending to these domestic needs by reducing the military budget, ending the war in Afghanistan and bringing U.S. troops home safely now.

This issue transcends party politics. The voters are calling on all elected officials, regardless of party, branch of government or personal opinion to realign the priorities of the federal budget. Our voters have declared their preferences for a focus on investing in domestic jobs; prevention of cuts to Medicaid, housing and food assistance; improving taxes by simplifying the tax code and raising the rates on large corporations and very high incomes; and re-directing spending away from Afghanistan, foreign military bases and nuclear weapons and toward our most important domestic priorities. This view is the view of our constituents in every corner of Massachusetts, and compels us to make it our mission.

These matters are of utmost importance here in Massachusetts where education, transportation and local aid are at risk due to shortfalls in the coming year's state budget. We know from Rep. Markey's recent study that important state programs such as health care research, low income

heating assistance, public health, CDBG grants and AIDS treatment will be cut if the automatic budget cuts go into effect. And the impact of a so-called "Grand Bargain" could be even more serious if cuts in core public programs are made in exchange for some new tax revenues without any serious cuts in Pentagon spending.

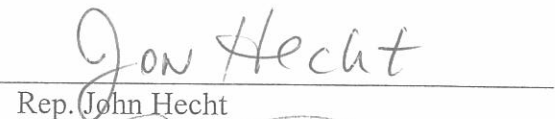
We urge you to promote only budgetary policies that are in accord with the principles embedded in the aforementioned ballot question. We ask that you join us and our mutual constituents at a public forum to discuss these matters. Thank you for your consideration and for the work that you do in advocating for Massachusetts.

Sincerely yours,

  
Rep. Jay Kaufman

  
Sen. Patricia Jehlen

  
Rep. Ellen Story

  
Rep. John Hecht

  
Rep. Peter Kocot

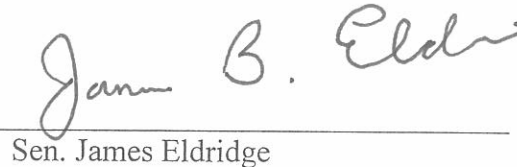
  
Sen. Sal DiDomenico

  
Rep. David Linsky

  
Rep. Denise Provost

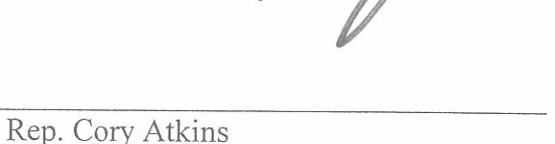
  
Sen. Stanley Rosenberg

  
Sen. Benjamin Dowling

  
Sen. James Eldridge

  
Rep. Sean Garballey

  
Rep. Jason Lewis

  
Rep. Cory Atkins

  
Rep. Gailanne Cariddi

  
Rep. Benjamin Swan

Ant Petrucci

Sen. Anthony Petrucci

Tom Sannicandro

Rep. Tom Sannicandro

Alie K Wolf

REPUCE KWOLF

Frank I Smizik

Rep. Frank I. Smizik

Kay Khan

KAY KHAN

Dan Wolf

Sen. Daniel Wolf

Liz Malia

Rep. Liz Malia

Louis L Kalfa

Representative Louis L. Kalfa

Denise Andrews

Representative Denise Andrews