



www.moar-recovery.org

Educating Policymakers about Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Your Voice – Individual, Family, Friend - Counts

You Educate Policymakers about Addiction, Prevention, Treatment, & Recovery. Every policymaker will let you know that the best information source about community needs comes from constituents. They want to learn first hand from their constituents.

Join Groups Supporting Your Concerns about Addiction Prevention, Treatment and Recovery

- **MOAR** is one association, as are many coalitions, for involvement.
- You will learn and help to develop a public policy campaign with action steps.
- You learn how to do fact sheets, prepare for policymaker education visits, & participate in forums.
- You learn that you are not alone and your voice counts.

Learn How Public Policies and Laws are Developed and Changed

- Find out who represents your district in the state house or Capitol Hill, and contact information.
- Visit www.wheredoivotema.com or call The Citizens Information Bureau 1- 800-392-6090.
- You will need your zip code and the 4 digits that follow, which are found on mailed advertisements.
- Learning about the state lawmaking and budget process is very important.
- A very good overview of this process is found in the **MOAR: Your Voice is a Capital Investment**

Be Effective when Visiting with Legislators

- Remember when talking to legislators to remember the ABC's - *Accuracy, Brevity, and Courtesy*.
- Address them in email as "Dear Representative Johnson" or "Dear Senator Johnson".
- Be clear about purpose – Such as educating them about the value of a certain policy change,
- Always frame the request by sharing your story (60 seconds) of one of many in the community,
- Who would benefit from this public policy change?
- Back the story with organization or coalition fact sheet and your contact information

Be a Rational, Pleasant Human being... Follow The Few Policymaker Do's and Don'ts

- Thank your legislator for past support when possible.
- Don't threaten retaliation, especially in the voting booth. Its fine to disagree – but
- Don't be disagreeable. Make your case firmly and politely.
- Send a thank you after your visit and at the end of the legislative session to supportive legislators.
- Courtesy is a good way to be remembered.

Summing it up – Effective Policymaker education

Face to face conversations with your legislators are excellent ways to put your message across, but writing, calling, and emailing on specific bills or issues are also important. Remember to:

- Frame your story in terms of how it relates to the area represented to the policymaker.
- Learn about a legislator's personal interests.
- Limit your email or letter to one page so your message is clear.
- Watch your e-mail for requests for calls for action. Then act!
- Be persistent. Persistence is the most effective advocacy tool.
- Build a trustworthy relationship with policymakers, as longstanding relationships count

**Your Voice Counts!
March 29, 2021**



To Find Your Legislator's Name and More

State's Citizen Information Number: 1- 800-392-6090
Go on The Web: www.wheredoivotema.com
State House Main Number: 617-722-2000
To Find Legislators, Committees, Bills Go Online www.malegislature.gov

A MASSACHUSETTS PUBLIC POLICYMAKER TELEPHONE ACCESS GUIDE

Governor, Charlie Baker	617-725-4005
Lieutenant Governor, Karyn Polito	617-725-4005
Attorney General, Maura Healey	617-727-2200
Secretary of the Commonwealth, William Francis Galvin	617-727-7030
Department of Public Health Commissioner, Monica Bharel	617-624-5200
Bureau of Substance Addiction Services Director, Deirdre Calvert	617-624-5151
Mayor of Boston Office, Acting Mayor Kim Janey	617-635-4500
Mayor of Boston 24 Hour Constituent Services Line	311
Mayor of Boston Recovery Services, Jen Tracey	617-534-5808
Senate President Karen Spilka	617-722-1500
Senate Ways and Means Chair, Senator Michael Rodrigues	617-722-1114
Senate Clerk, Michael Hurley	617-722-1276
Senate Majority Leader, Senator Cynthia Creem	617-722-1639
Senate Minority Leader, Senator Bruce Tarr	617-722-1600
House Speaker, Representative Ronald Mariano	617-722-2500
House Ways and Means Chair, Representative Aaron Michlewitz	617-722-2990
House Clerk, Steven T. James	617-722-2356
House Majority Leader, Representative Claire Cronin	617-722-2300
House Minority Leader, Representative Bradley Jones	617-722-2100
Joint Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use, and Recovery Committee Chairs, Senator Julian Cyr	617-722-1579
Representative Adrian Madaro	617-722-2060
Joint Committee on the Judiciary Committee Chairs, Senator James Eldridge	617-722-1120
Representative Michael Day	617-722-2396

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