



Housing First  
for Hampden, Hampshire,  
Franklin and Berkshire Counties

## **Western Massachusetts Network to End Homelessness Legislative Priorities (Updated 4/20/22)**

The Western Massachusetts Network to End Homelessness prioritizes ending racial inequity in homelessness. The following bills will advance this goal while creating greater housing stability and more affordable housing for all.

### **COVID-19 Housing Equity Bill** (S.891/H.1434)

Lead sponsors: Senator Pat Jehlen, Representative Frank Moran, Representative Kevin Honan  
—In Joint Housing Committee; deadline for reporting out extended until May 9

### **Right to Counsel in Evictions** (S.874/H.1436)

Lead sponsors: Senator Sal DiDomenico, Representative David Rogers  
—In Joint Housing Committee; deadline for reporting out extended until May 9

### **Tenant Opportunity to Purchase Act (TOPA)** (S.890/H.1426)

Lead sponsors: Senator Pat Jehlen, Representative Jay Livingstone  
—In Joint Housing Committee; deadline for reporting out extended until May 9

### **Local Option for Housing Affordability** (a real estate transfer fee in support of affordable housing) (S.868/H.1377)

Lead sponsors: Senator Jo Comerford, Representative Mike Connolly  
—In Joint Housing Committee; deadline for reporting out extended until May 9

### **Eviction Record Sealing (HOMES)** (H.4505)

Lead sponsors: Senator Joe Boncore, Representative Mike Moran  
—Reported out favorably by the Judiciary Committee; referred to the House Committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling

### **Codifying the Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program (MRVP)** (S.898/H.1428)

Lead sponsors: Senator Joan Lovely, Representative Adrian Madaro  
—Reported out favorably by the Joint Committee on Housing; now in the Senate Ways and Means Committee (House version attached to the Senate version)

### **Flexible Housing Subsidy Pool for Permanent Supportive Housing** (H.3838)

Lead sponsor: Representative Joan Meschino  
—Reported out favorably by the Joint Housing Committee; referred to Joint Committee on Health Care Financing

### **Bill of Rights for People Experiencing Homelessness** (S.142/H.246)

Lead sponsors: Senator Becca Rausch, Representative Smitty Pignatelli, Representative Frank Moran  
—Reported out favorably by the Joint Committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities; Senate version now in Senate Ways and Means; House version in Health Care Financing Committee

**Western Massachusetts Cliff Effect Pilot** (S.119/H.208)

Lead sponsors: Senator Eric Lesser, Representative Pat Duffy, Representative Carlos González  
—Reported out favorably by the Joint Committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities; referred to the House and Senate Committees on Ways and Means

**Ease Access to Standard MA ID Cards** (S.2276/H.3515)

Lead sponsors: Senator Harriet Chandler, Representative Kay Khan  
—Reported out favorably by the Joint Transportation Committee; both bills referred to the House Ways and Means Committee

**Regional Transit Authority Advancement** (S.2277/H.3413)

Lead sponsors: Senator Harriet Chandler, Representative Natalie Blais  
—Reported out favorably by the Joint Transportation Committee; referred to the Senate Ways and Means Committee