

Annual Legislative Forum
Co-hosted with Easter Seals

February 4, 2012

MetroWest
Center for Independent Living, Inc.



Legislators' Forum

On Friday, February 1, 2013, Easter Seals of Massachusetts and the MetroWest Center for Independent Living co-hosted the annual Legislators' Forum Breakfast. All of our MetroWest legislators were invited. Staff and consumers of both organizations attended. The breakfast is an opportunity for open discussion on disability issues, especially those that are currently in discussion at the statehouse, or that should be. It also is an opportunity for legislators to learn more about Independent Living and Assistive Technology, and the important role these play in the lives of people with disabilities.

For more photos from the day, visit our [web gallery](#).



Reps. Carolyn Dykema, Chris Walsh, Tom Conroy and David Linsky with Paul Spooner

You're Invited!

MA Statewide
Independent Living
Council
is hosting the Annual
**Statewide
Independent
Living
Education
Day at the
Statehouse**

Where: The Great Hall,
Statehouse, Boston

When: Thursday,
March 21 from 11 a.m. -
3 p.m.

Contact:
info@masilc.org

Download the [flyer](#) for
more info.

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Some Highlights of the Discussion at the Legislator's Forum

State Representative David Linsky (Millis, Natick and Sherborn) started the discussion by mentioning that the Governor's Budget is based on a requested \$2 billion increase

in taxes (i.e. risky). He went on to acknowledge that money spent on Human Services has not kept up as health care costs continue to rise. He also reminded attendees that the MetroWest House legislators consistently support Human Services.

State Representative Carolyn Dykema (Holliston, Hopkinton and Southborough) also mentioned that at least some tax increase is expected, and that we will need to prioritize. With Transportation in the spotlight, the disability community should continue to participate in the decisions. Investment is planned in regional and commuter transit, as well as improvements in technology. Representative Dykema also talked about her new bill regarding Intellectual and Developmental Disability Training for Health Care Professionals.

State Representative Chris Walsh (Framingham) spoke about his support for disability issues. He also mentioned a new initiative he is working on related to home modifications for accessibility housing for veterans.

MWCIL Executive Director, Paul Spooner, spoke about IL Centers' participation in discussions on transportation and health care. He highlighted the fact that living in the community is significantly cheaper than living in a nursing home, so that Independent Living Centers are an efficient use of state funds. He also pointed out that while we appeared to get an increase last year, the additional money instead went to another program, so that IL Center funding has remained fixed for the last 6 or 7 years.



Legislators Directory

The state website provides an easy way to find your legislator through www.wheredoivotema.com. Or you can navigate to all of the legislators through www.malegislature.gov/people. Once you navigate to your legislator, you can view which bills he or she is sponsoring and co-sponsoring.

We've listed our 26 towns below. If your town has multiple Reps or Senators, then you will need to go through wheredoivotema.com and enter your address. Our Washington Senators: Elizabeth Warren and William Cowan work for all of us. As you can see, our area has a lot of representation!

Ashland State Senator Karen Spilka, State Rep Tom Sannicandro, Federal Rep Edward Markey

Bellingham State Senator Richard Moore, State Representative Kevin Kuros, Federal Reps James McGovern and Joseph Kennedy

Dover State Senator Michael Rush, State Rep Denise Garlick, Federal Rep Joe Kennedy

Foxboro State Senator James Timilty, State Rep F. Jay Barrows, Federal Rep Joe Kennedy

Framingham State Senator Karen Spilka, State Rep Thomas Conroy, State Rep Tom Sannicandro, State Rep Chris Walsh, Federal Rep Edward Markey

Franklin State Senator Richard Ross, State Senator Karen Spilka, State Rep Jeffrey Roy, Rep Joe Kennedy

Holliston State Senator Karen Spilka, State Rep Carolyn Dykema, Federal Rep Edward Markey

Hopkinton State Senator Karen Spilka, State Rep Carolyn Dykema, Federal Rep Joe Kennedy

Hudson State Senator James Eldridge, State Rep Kate Hogan, Federal Rep Nicola Tsongas

Marlboro State Senator James Eldridge, State Rep Danielle Gregoire, State Rep Thomas Conroy, Federal Rep Nicola Tsongas

Maynard State Senator James Eldridge, State Rep Kate Hogan, Federal Rep Nicola Tsongas

Medfield State Senator James Timilty, State Rep Denise Garlick, State Rep Daniel Winslow, Federal Rep Joe Kennedy

Medway State Senator Karen Spilka, State Rep Jeffrey Roy, State Rep John Fernandes, Federal Rep Joe Kennedy

Millis State Senator Richard Ross, State Rep David Linsky, State Rep Daniel Winslow, Federal Rep Joe Kennedy

Natick State Senator Richard Ross, Senator Karen Spilka,

State Rep David Linsky, Federal Rep Edward Markey

Needham State Senator Richard Ross, Senator Michael Rush,
State, Rep Denise Garlick, Federal Rep Joe Kennedy

Norfolk State Senator Richard Ross, State Rep Daniel
Winslow, Federal Rep Joe Kennedy

Plainville State Senator Richard Ross, State Rep Daniel
Winslow, Federal Rep Joe Kennedy

Sherborn State Senator Richard Ross, State Rep David
Linsky, Federal Rep Edward Markey

Southborough State Senator James Eldridge, State Rep
Carolyn Dykema, Federal Rep Edward Markey

Stow State Senator James Eldridge, State Rep Kate Hogan,
Federal Rep Nicola Tsongas

Sudbury State Senator Michael Barrett, State Senator James
Eldridge, State Rep Thomas Conroy, Federal Rep Edward
Markey, Federal Rep Nicola Tsongas

Wayland State Senator Richard Ross, State Rep Tom Conroy,
State Rep Alice Peisch, Federal Rep Edward Markey

Wellesley State Senator Cynthia Creem, State Senator Richard
Ross, State Rep Alice Peisch, Federal Rep Joe Kennedy

Weston State Senator Michael Barrett, State Rep Alice Peisch,
Federal Rep Edward Markey

Wrentham State Senator Richard Ross, State Rep Daniel
Winslow, Federal Rep Joe Kennedy

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