



## MOAR –

Massachusetts Organization for Addiction Recovery

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MOAR is a Massachusetts Member of FAVOR, Faces and Voices of Recovery,  
NEAAR, New England Alliance for Addiction Recovery

### Recovery Take Action Legislator Education Opportunities for Today!

#### MOAR Information with Recovery Action Steps

- The Governor’s Budget on State Supported Services for 2011 is known as House 2, came out with about a 4 million dollar cut to addiction services.
- Do not panic. The Governor’s Budget is a proposal and Does Not Get Voted on. But Do Act!
- You know that Massachusetts and Our Nation is Experiencing an Economic Crisis
- You know that Addiction Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery are Investments to Our Communities

#### Important Information:

To Find Your Legislators’ Name and More:

*State’s Citizen Information Number: 1- 800-392-6090*

*Go on The Web: [www.wheredoivotema.com](http://www.wheredoivotema.com)*

Call Your State Representative and State Senator at (617) 722-2000; ask the operator to be connected.

Mail Your Elected Legislator at Representative or Senator \_\_\_\_\_  
The State House  
Boston, MA 02133

#### What about The State Budget for Substance Abuse Services – Some Education Information for You!

Massachusetts is experiencing an economic crisis and an addiction epidemic. There is a solution!

Did you know Massachusetts now has an alcohol sales tax on purchases made in stores.

Did you know that there will be a State Ballot where voters could vote to repeal it. Will you help The Massachusetts Campaign for Addiction Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery educate the public about the **value** of this tax.

Will you help **educate your legislators about the need to dedicate the alcohol sales tax** for Addiction Services.

#### **How about a Special Fund for Addiction Prevention, Treatment , and Recovery from Alcohol Sales Tax Revenues in The State Budget: Message is**

“Hello, I’d like to leave a message for Rep/Senator \_\_\_\_\_. My name is \_\_\_\_\_, and I am a constituent in your District. I am calling to ask Rep/Senator \_\_\_\_\_ to support the creation of a special fund from alcohol sales tax revenues specifically for addiction prevention, treatment and recovery. This move could raise \$115 million for addiction services. I know and you know how substance abuse effects our community. In fact, if casinos come, I think there should be at least 2.5% of that revenue going to gambling and other addiction services. I am asking for revenues for these services, as I want no cuts.....and I want no cuts to Medicaid and Mass Health Behavioral Health, and MA Public Health services. Thank you very much. Please get back to me with any questions.”

#### **Make MA #1 for Addiction Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery! Ask Your Legislators to Support: An Act Relating to Controlled Substances and Medical Treatment. – The Good Samaritan Act**

“Hello, I’d like to leave a message for Rep \_\_\_\_\_. My name is \_\_\_\_\_, and I am a constituent in your District. I am calling to find out if Rep/Senator \_\_\_\_\_ will support Representative Alice Peisch’s bill #1653: Please move it from Third Reading to The Floor for a win. There were 637 opioid overdose deaths last year... the most ever. A factor is a witness’s fear of calling 911 due to possible prosecution because of illegal drug involvement. This bill provides limited immunity from drug possession charges when a drug-related overdose victim or a witness to an overdose seeks medical attention. It does not stop legal investigation of the area. You, as a supporter, could help maintain public safety, and reduce drug-related overdose deaths by removing barriers to calling 911. Thank you very much.”

### **An Act Relative to Substance Abuse Education and Prevention**

"Hello, I'd like to leave a message for Rep/Senator \_\_\_\_\_. My name is \_\_\_\_\_, and I am a constituent in your district. I am calling to find out if Rep/Senator \_\_\_\_\_ will ask for a favorable report for Senator Steven Tolman's **S2281 An Act Relative to Substance Abuse Education and Prevention** currently in The Health Care Financing Committee. You know 3,265 Massachusetts residents died from opiate-related overdoses between 2002-2007. This bill takes into account the testimonies delivered from The Oxycontin Heroin Commission Hearings about significant ways to address the devastation of addiction in our communities. It addresses the need for alcohol and other drug education from school to prescribers, parent support, prescription monitoring, criminal justice reform, limited immunity from drug possession charges when a drug related overdose victim or a witness to an overdose seeks medical attention, and improved insurance coverage for treatment. Your support is so important. Please get back to me. Thank you very much."

### **CORI Reform**

"My name is .....I am calling to ask my representative to support CORI Reform. It is time to reduce barriers to employment and housing for people who have a favorably ending case (e.g., not guilty), and/or are demonstrating positive, changed lives. Senator Harriet Chandler (originally Senate 1608 – now S2220) and Rep Elizabeth Malia (House 3523) have submitted strong CORI reform proposals. As my representative, I ask you to help pass CORI reform as a first priority in the 2010 legislative session. I believe that the outcome should be to:

- o Implement automatic sealing of favorably ending cases (e.g., not guilty)
- o Require only convictions and open cases be reported to non-law enforcement entities
- o Prohibit employers from discriminating against CORI subjects based solely on a CORI.  
**Moves the question** from job applications from first to last....(Ban The Box)  
**Purpose:** Get to know the person, then ask about history
- o Reduce length of current sealing period of felony and misdemeanor convictions.

Research demonstrates that if an offense is not repeated after 3 years; it is not likely. Please support this effort to build healthier lives, communities, and economy. CORI Reform needs to pass in The House, and become signed into law. Thank you for getting back to me."

### **Provide Court Diversion of Low Level Offenders**

"Hello, I'd like to leave a message for Rep/Senator \_\_\_\_\_. My name is \_\_\_\_\_, and I am a constituent in your District. I am calling to find out if Rep/Senator \_\_\_\_\_ will support Representative Martin Walsh's legislative proposal H1962, **to Provide Court Diversion of Low Level Offenders**. The bill allows MA Bureau of Substance Abuse Services treatment oversight for low level offenders who would opt for treatment as alternative sentencing. Without further crime, there would be no application of a criminal record. Please strongly consider supporting this measure to support a life with a path to recovery."

### **Removal of Alcohol Advertising on Public Transit and State Property**

"Hello, I'd like to leave a message for Rep/Senator \_\_\_\_\_. My name is \_\_\_\_\_, and I am a constituent in your District. I am calling to find out if Rep/Senator \_\_\_\_\_ will support Representative Martin Walsh's legislative proposal, H1113, which seeks to remove alcohol beverage advertising from public transit. Alcohol advertising is a deterrent to thinking through consequences of alcohol use. Thank you very much for your time."

**An Act to Reduce Underage Drinking**, "Hello, I'd like to leave a message for Rep/Senator \_\_\_\_\_. My name is \_\_\_\_\_, and I am a constituent in your District. I am calling to find out if Rep/Senator \_\_\_\_\_ will support Representative Brian Wallace legislative proposal, H320 **An Act to Reduce Underage Drinking**, which seeks to place warning labels on beer and wine with legal consequences if the purchase is for persons under 21. Thank you very much."

- ***And always add \_ Please Get Back to Me with Your Views...***
- ***And As a Constituent, You Can Follow up on The Recovery Action Plan Conversation Throughout The Legislative Session***