

Vote for **All** to Have Access to a Housing Court

Vote **Yes** on **Amendments #1176 and #1180**

The Housing Court has a broad constituency that is urging a final expansion to make housing court statewide. **Why?**

Derek P. Fullerton, Massachusetts Health Officers Association

“Housing courts have the expertise to address many issues we see - code violations, hoarding, illegal dwellings, and abandoned property. All of these issues can impact a whole neighborhood. Housing courts are a forum where if repair orders for serious and unsafe conditions are not carried out, we can efficiently and effectively enforce these orders.”

Jerry Sneirson, Landlord, Greater Boston

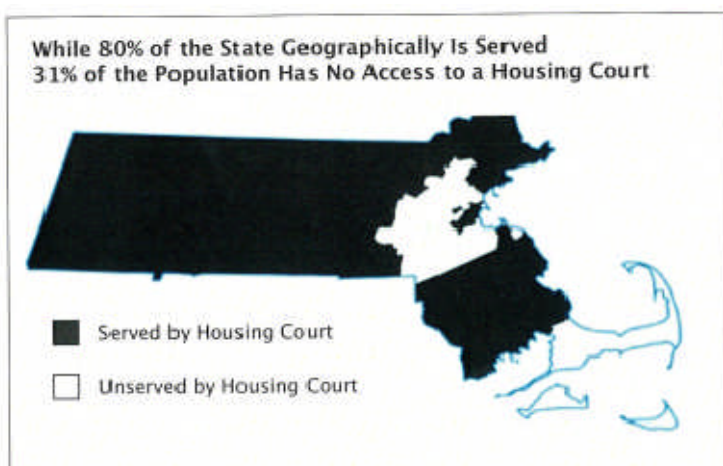
“Having access to court mediators who are trained to mediate can help me, as a landlord, come to agreements with tenants about how to move forward. A housing court mediator can sort through all the issues and that is a big benefit to the landlord community.”

Chief Bob DiPoli, Fire Chief’s Association of Massachusetts

“The Housing Court plays a pivotal role in the daily operations of Fire Departments across the state. Occupied buildings without working fire alarms and sprinkler systems can expose residents to deadly consequences should a fire occur. Issues that involve fire safety are handled expediently in Housing Court and dangerous situations rectified promptly.”

Gladys Vega, Executive Director, Chelsea Collaborative

“We see working and poor tenants facing evictions, we see owners facing foreclosure, we see how evictions impact children and their families, and we see tenants and homeowners losing their homes. We need a housing court.”



**120 organizations
are calling for
Housing Courts
statewide**

Amendment #1176

Expands the Housing Court statewide effective Jan. 1, 2017.

Amendment #1180

\$1.2 million (half year’s start-up) for the expansion of the Housing Court.

4 out of 5 landlords file eviction cases in Housing Court where they have a choice between filing in Housing or District Court.

In Housing Courts, the Tenancy Preservation Program’s **prevented homelessness in 93% of its 537 cases statewide** (FY 2015).

The City of Springfield thru the Western Housing Court revived nearly **250 blighted properties thru receivership** since 2008.



Over 120 Organizations Call for Housing Court Statewide

- Adams & Sammon
- Advocates, Inc - Framingham
- American Friends Service Cmt – Cambridge
- Avon Board of Health
- Barnstable County Dept of Health & Environment
- **Barnstable Town Council (Resolution)**
- Bay Cove Human Services, Inc
- Belmont Board of Health
- **Belmont Board of Selectman (Resolution)**
- Belmont Fire Depart, Fire Prevention Bureau
- Berkshire Hsing Develop. Corp.
- Boston Area Rape Crisis Center
- Boston Bar Association
- Boston Center for Independent Living
- Bourne Housing Authority
- Brazilian Women's Group, Brighton
- Broadway Glenn Tenant Council, Chelsea
- Brokerick Bankcroft, Attorneys at Law, Newton
- Brookline Council on Aging
- Brookline Public Health Depart - Environmental Health Division
- Cambridge City Council
- Cape & Island Health Agents Coalition
- Cape & Islands Regional Network on Homelessness
- Cape Cod Council of Churches
- Centro Latino, Chelsea
- Chatham Health Division
- **Chelsea City Council (Resolution)**
- Chelsea City Manager, Thomas G. Ambrosino
- Chelsea Collaborative
- Chelsea Community Connection Coalition
- Chelsea Fire Department
- Chelsea Inspectional Services Department
- Chelsea Police Department
- Chelsea Public Schools
- Chelsea Senior Center
- Citizens Housing and Planning Association
- Community Action Agency of Somerville, Inc
- Community Action Programs Inter-City in Revere, Winthrop & Chelsea
- Community Labor United
- Community Teamwork, Inc.
- Duffy Health Center, Hyannis
- Elder Services of Cape Cod & Islands
- Eliot Community Human Services
- Everett, Mayor Carl DeMaria
- Father Bill's and Mainspring, Brockton
- Fire Chiefs' Association of Massachusetts
- Fire Prevention Association of Massachusetts
- **Framingham Board of Selectman (Resolution)**
- **Framingham Disability Commission (Resolution)**
- Framingham Town Meeting Resolution
- Greater Boston Legal Services
- HarborCOV: Communities Overcoming Violence
- HAPHousing
- Harvard Legal Aid Bureau
- Harwich Fire Department
- Homes for Families
- Housing Assistance Corp.
- Housing Families, Inc
- Housing for All Corporation
- Housing Solutions for Southeastern Massachusetts
- Irene Bagdoian, Attorney at Law, Brockton
- Jewish Alliance for Law and Social Action
- Just-A-Start Corporation
- Justice Center of Southeast Massachusetts
- La Comunidad, Everett
- Law Office of Christopher T. Saccardi
- Law Office of Heather M. Ward
- Lawyers Clearinghouse on Affordable Housing and Homelessness
- Legal Services Center of Harvard Law School
- **Lexington, Office of Selectman (Resolution)**
- Mace Tenant Council, Chelsea
- Major City Police Chiefs Association
- Margolis Tenant Council, Chelsea
- Mass. Association of Public Health Nurses
- Mass. Chapter of NAHRO (National Assoc. of Housing and Redevelopment Officials)
- Mass. Environmental Health Association
- Mass. Municipal Lawyers Association
- Mass. Union of Public Housing Tenants
- Mass. Association of Health Boards
- Mass. Bar Association
- Mass. Coalition for the Homeless
- Mass. Communities Action Network
- Mass. Health Officers Association
- Mass. Jobs With Justice
- Mass. Law Reform Institute
- **Medfield Board of Selectman (Resolution)**
- Metro Credit Union, Chelsea
- Metropolitan Boston Housing Partnership
- MetroWest Legal Services
- Metrowest Workers Center, Framingham
- National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys – Massachusetts Chapter
- Neighbor to Neighbor, Massachusetts
- New Chelsea Realty
- Professional Fire Fighters of Massachusetts
- Quincy Health Department
- RCAP Solutions, Inc.
- Regional Housing Network of Massachusetts
- ROCA
- Rosie's Place, Boston
- Sandwich Housing Authority
- SEUI 32BJ New England District 615
- **Somerville Board of Aldermen (Resolution)**
- Somerville Homeless Coalition
- Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services
- South Middlesex Opportunity Council
- Spencer Board of Health
- Springfield Housing Authority
- Springwell - Waltham
- St. Luke's-San Lucas, Episcopal Church, Chelsea
- Suffolk University Legal Services
- The Neighborhood Developers, Chelsea
- The Second Step – Newton
- Town of Bedford, Town Manager
- Town of Halifax, Health Agent
- Town of Lexington, Town Manager's Office
- Town of Norwood, Board of Health
- UNITE HERE Local 26
- **Watertown Town Council (Resolution)**
- Wellfleet Housing Authority
- Westford Health Department
- Winchester Board of Health
- **Winchester Board of Selectman (Resolution)**
- Winchester Housing Partnership Board
- Yarmouth Fire Department