



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
MASSACHUSETTS SENATE

**SENATOR WILLIAM N. BROWNSBERGER**

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*Senate Chair*  
JOINT COMMITTEE ON  
THE JUDICIARY

*Vice Chair*  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
ETHICS

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ELECTION LAWS  
MUNICIPALITIES AND  
REGIONAL GOVERNMENT  
WAYS AND MEANS

February 9, 2016

The Honorable Karen E. Spilka  
Chair, Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
State House  
Room 212  
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Chairwoman Spilka,

I greatly appreciate the opportunity to meet with you to discuss my thoughts on the FY17 budget.

My top priority this year is to look at the fees we impose on people on probation and parole. Depending on the type of case, these fees can total well over \$50 per month. Charging these fees to people struggling to reenter society is a great way to push them back into crime. The fees generate over \$20 million for the state budget, so eliminating them outright many not be plausible in a single year; however, I believe there are different approaches we could take to scale back their use.

The following are my top personal priorities but they are all less important to me than making progress in reducing the number of economic burdens on people in the criminal justice system.

I would like to highlight the following, as my top priorities:

- 1) Complete the overdue effort reduction and downpayment aid schedules in the Chapter 70 funding formula;
- 2) Fund the Special Education Circuit Breaker account fully, with an allowance for inflation;
- 3) Fund the Department of Conservation and Recreation fully;
- 4) Fund Charter School Reimbursements fully; and
- 5) Fund Kindergarten Development Grants fully.



The line-items below are additional items which are of importance to me and my constituents:

0321-1500 Committee for Public Counsel Services  
0321-1504 CPCS Attorney Salaries and Related Programs  
0321-1510 Private Counsel Compensation and Related Programs  
0321-1600 Massachusetts Legal Assistance Corporation  
0321-2000 Mental Health Legal Advisors Committee  
1599-6903 Chapter 257 Reserve  
2000-0101 Climate Change Adaptation and Preparedness  
2200-0100 Department of Environmental Protection Administration  
2300-0100 Department of Fish and Game Administration  
2511-0100 Department of Agricultural Resources Administration  
2810-0100 State Parks and Recreation  
2810-2042 Department of Conservation and Recreation Retained Revenue  
3000-4040 Birth through Pre-School and Related Programs  
3000-4060 Supportive and TANF Childcare  
3000-5000 Grants to Head Start Programs and Related Programs  
3000-7000 Healthy Families Home Visiting Program and Related Programs  
3000-7050 Services for Infants and Parents  
3000-7070 Reach Out and Read Program  
4000-0005 Safe and Successful Youth Initiative and Related Programs  
4000-0051 Family Access Centers  
4000-0300 Exec. Office Health and Human Services  
4000-0600 MassHealth Senior Care  
4003-0122 Low-Income Citizenship Program  
4110-1000 Community Services for the Blind  
4110-3010 Vocational Rehabilitation for the Blind  
4120-0200 Independent Living Centers  
4120-2000 Vocational Rehabilitation for the Disabled  
4120-3000 Employment Assistance  
4120-4000 Independent Living Assistance for the Multi Disabled and Related Programs  
4120-4001 Accessible Housing Registry for Disabled Persons  
4120-6000 Head Injury Treatment Services and Related Programs  
4125-0100 Massachusetts Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing  
4401-1000 Employment Services Program and Related Program  
4403-2119 Teen Structured Settings Program  
4510-0600 Environmental Health Assessment and Compliance  
4510-0710 Health Care Quality and Improvement  
4510-0810 Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner & Pediatric SANE and Related Programs  
4510-0100 Public Health Critical Operations and Essential Services  
4512-0103 HIV/AIDS Prevention Treatment and Services and Related Programs  
4512-0201 Substance Abuse Step-Down Recovery Services  
4513-1020 Early Intervention and Related Programs  
4513-1130 Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Prevention  
4516-1000 State Laboratory and Communicable Disease Control Services  
4530-9000 Teenage Pregnancy Prevention Program  
4590-0250 Smoking Prevention and Cessation Program Expansion and Related Programs  
4590-1506 Youth Violence Prevention Grants and Related Programs  
4800-0016 Transitional Employment Program (Roca)  
4800-0038 Services for Children and Families (Foster Care/Adoption) and Related Programs  
4800-0040 Family Support and Stabilization and Related Programs

4800-1400 Support Services for People at Risk of Domestic Violence and Related Programs  
5011-0100 Department of Mental Health Administration and Operations  
5042-5000 Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services and Related Programs  
5046-0000 Adult Mental Health and Support Services  
5047-0001 Emergency Services and Mental Health Care and Related Programs  
5095-0015 Inpatient Facilities and Community-Based Mental Health  
5911-1003 Dept. of Developmental Disabilities Administration and Related Programs  
5911-2000 Transportation Services  
5920-2000 Community Residential Supports and Related Programs  
5920-2010 State-Operated Residential Supports and Related Programs  
5920-2025 Community Day and Work Programs  
5920-3000 Respite Family Supports for the Developmentally Disabled  
5920-3010 Autism Division  
5920-5000 Turning 22 - Dept. of Developmental Services  
5930-1000 State Facilities for the Developmentally Disabled  
7000-9406 Talking Book Program Watertown  
7002-0012 YouthWorks and Related Programs  
7003-1206 Massachusetts Service Alliance and Related Programs  
7004-0100 Caseworkers for Homeless Families and Individuals  
7004-0101 Emergency Assistance - Family Shelters & Services and Related Programs  
7004-0102 Homeless Individuals Assistance and Related Programs  
7004-0104 Home and Healthy for Good Program and Related Programs  
7004-0108 HomeBASE  
7004-3036 Housing Services and Counseling  
7004-3045 Tenancy Preservation Program  
7004-4314 Service Coordinators Program  
7004-9005 Subsidies to Public Housing Authorities  
7004-9024 Mass. Rental Voucher Program - MRVP  
7004-9030 Alternative Housing Voucher Program  
7004-9322 Secure Jobs Pilot  
7004-9316 Residential Assistance for Families in Transition  
7006-0011 Loan Originator Administration and Consumer Counseling Program  
7009-9600 Inclusive Concurrent Enrollment and Related Programs  
7030-1005 Reading Recovery and Related Programs  
7030-1002 Kindergarten Development Grants  
7010-0012 METCO  
7027-0019 School-to-Career Connecting Activities and Related Programs  
7035-0002 Adult Basic Education  
7061-9412 Extended Learning Time Grants  
7061-9611 After-School and Out-of-School Grants  
7061-9626 Youth-Build Grants  
7061-9634 Mentoring Matching Grants  
7066-0015 Workforce Development Grants to Community Colleges and Related Programs  
7066-0021 Foster Care and Adopted Fee Waiver  
7070-0065 Massachusetts State Scholarship Program  
7100-0700 Office of Dispute Resolution  
8100-0111 Shannon Grants  
9110-1604 Supportive Senior Housing Program  
9110-1630 Elder Home Care Purchased Services  
9110-1633 Elder Home Care Case Management and Administration  
9110-1636 Elder Protective Services

9110-1700 Elder Homeless Placement  
9110-1900 Elder Nutrition Program  
9110-9002 Grants to Councils on Aging  
xxxx-xxxx Funding new line item for fuel assistance

Thank you very much for your consideration of these items.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions. I can be reached by phone at 617-771-8274 or by email: [william.brownsberger@masenate.gov](mailto:william.brownsberger@masenate.gov)

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. N. Brownsberger". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

William N. Brownsberger  
STATE SENATOR