



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE GENERAL COURT
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON, MA 02133

Clerk Stephen James
Office of the Clerk of the House
24 Beacon Street
Room 145 – State House
Boston, MA 02133

Clerk William F. Welch
Office of the Clerk of the Senate
24 Beacon Street
Room 335 – State House
Boston, MA 02133

September 17, 2015

Dear Clerk James and Clerk Welch:

On behalf of the LGBT Aging Commission, we submit the attached report of recommendations analyzing the health, housing, financial, psychosocial, and long term care needs of the Commonwealth's older lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender older adults and their caregivers, and examining the impact of state policies and regulations on the LGBT older adult population.


As Section 186 in Chapter 38 of the Acts of 2013 requires, the report is being filed with the Legislature to consider policy improvements that ensure equality of access, treatment, care and benefits for LGBT older adults, increasing provider awareness and competency for the needs of the growing population of LGBT older adults, and promoting best practices in the delivery of health, housing, and long term support services to older LGBT adults.

An increasing number of LGBT people are reaching older adulthood. With more and more LGBT adults reaching retirement age and entering mainstream senior services, the Commonwealth needs to be adequately prepared to protect some of our most vulnerable citizens. Therefore we urge our colleagues to consider the vital importance of the Commission's work contained herein and respond accordingly with further necessary budgetary allocations as well as appropriate policymaking decisions.

Sincerely,


James J. O'Day
STATE REPRESENTATIVE


Patricia D. Jehlen
STATE SENATOR


Alice Bonner
SECRETARY, EOEA


Alana Murphy
DHCD DESIGNEE

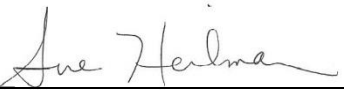

Kevin Cranston
DPH DESIGNEE

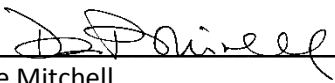

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