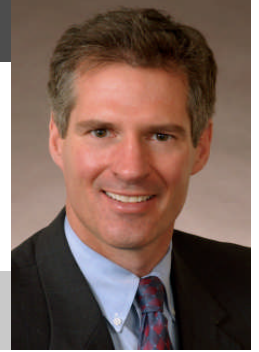


# THE BROWN BULLETIN

VOLUME 6, NUMBER 2 – SPRING 2009  
- SPECIAL FRANKLIN SENIOR EDITION -



ATTLEBORO • FRANKLIN • MILLIS • NATICK • NEEDHAM • NORFOLK  
NORTH ATTLEBORO • PLAINVILLE • SHERBORN • WAYLAND • WELLESLEY • WRENTHAM



*Sen. Brown and Sen. Spilka with Franklin residents, Glenn Jones and his daughters Dakota and Jillian. Sen. Brown hosted at them State House for being the highest bidder for the "Shadow a Senator for the Day" at the Davis Thayer Silent Auction to benefit the Kids of Davis Thayer in Franklin.*

## ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR ELDER

The Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) has created a Long-Term Care Financing Advisory Committee designed to identify strategic options for the future financing of care for elders and individuals with disabilities in Massachusetts. The overall goal of the Advisory Committee is to make recommendations regarding a multi-year process of reform.

The Advisory Committee will advise the state regarding public and private long-term care financing options that will support elders and people with disabilities in a manner that maximizes independence; assures access to the necessary continuum of long term supports; and supports a sustainable mix of personal and familial responsibility, private financing mechanisms, and public assistance.

## RESOURCE WEBSITE FOR SENIORS

MADIL (Massachusetts Aging and Disabilities Information Locator) is a user-friendly web-based resource directory created by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services on services and programs that support elders and persons with disabilities.

Visitors to MADIL can find community services and support in one of three ways: (1) using a search term. (2) conducting an advanced search, and (3) using the "Quick Guides" to search for a specific type of services or support.

For more information about the services MADIL can provide please visit <http://www.madil.org/> or contact the Executive Office of Health and Human Services at 617-573-1600.

## FRANKLIN SPRING DISTRICT HOURS

District hours provide constituents with an opportunity to stop in and voice any concerns they may have to Austin Lord, Sen. Brown's District Aide. No appointment is necessary. If you are unable to make any of these dates or locations, a private meeting can be arranged.

**1st and 3rd Thursday of the month**

10:00am - 10:45am Council on Aging (10 Daniel Cahill St)

## FUNDING FOR ELDER

Sen. Brown announces the passage of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The federal bill provides emergency funding to stem the tide of service reductions and protect the older Americans who are at risk of losing the critical health care and supportive services they depend upon. The following key provisions were included in the final agreement:

- **\$100 million for formula grants to states for Older Americans Act (OAA)** senior nutrition services including home-delivered meals (\$32 million), congregate meals (\$65 million) and Native American grantees (\$3 million);
- **\$120 million for the OAA Community Service Employment for Older Americans** program to provide subsidized community service jobs to an additional 24,000 low-income older Americans;
- **\$87 billion in aid to states for Medicaid programs;**
- **\$650 million for DTV Conversion Coupons** to enable American households to convert from analog television to digital;
- **\$1 billion for prevention and wellness programs** to fight preventable diseases and conditions with evidence-based strategies;
- **\$1 billion for Community Services Block Grant funding** to local communities to support employment, food, housing, and health care efforts;

"The additional resources provided in the economic recovery bill will help local agencies to better respond to the unique needs of older adults in their communities during the challenging times ahead of us," said Sen. Brown.

## TIP-LINE FOR WASTEFUL SPENDING

Sen. Brown announces the creation of a central e-mail address through which citizens can report questionable spending in Massachusetts from the federal economic stimulus package. The address, [mass.stimwatch@gmail.com](mailto:mass.stimwatch@gmail.com), welcomes tips from Massachusetts citizens who become aware of wasteful or questionable initiatives in their communities.

"As legislators, we are charged with ensuring that all Stimulus dollars are spent the way they are intended. The best way to ensure this is by urging concerned citizens to engage themselves in local government and gain an understanding of how their hard-earned tax money is being spent," stated Sen. Brown.

## BROWN'S CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS

Sen. Brown has made charitable contributions to many Franklin causes. Here are just a few:

- **Jefferson, Helen Keller, and Davis Thayer Elementary Schools**
- **Cornerstone Christian Academy**
- **New England Center for Homeless Veterans**
- **Phil Henault Children's Fund**
- **Franklin High School Girls Varsity Ice Hockey**
- **Tri-County RVTHS Athletics**

# BROWN BULLETIN

## COMMON SENSE PENSION REFORM

Recently, the Massachusetts Senate unanimously passed a pension reform bill that will close many loopholes in current state pension laws to end abuses and save taxpayer money.

Two provisions filed by Sen. Brown as a separate bill this session were adopted in the Senate bill. They eliminate the "provision that allows legislators to claim one year of service for one day served in a calendar year, and eliminated provisions that provide for enhanced pensions for legislators who fail to win re-election.

Additionally, the Senate adopted an amendment offered by the Senate Republican Caucus that Other common-sense reforms of our public pension system offered by the Republican Caucus that were adopted include: (1) prohibiting local officials who receive nominal stipends of \$5,000 or less from claiming those years as creditable service, (2) prohibition of bonuses for state pension fund managers during years that the fund accrues a loss, and (3) a requirement that legislators who file bills making changes to the pension system include a statement outlining how much the changes will cost and identify from where the money for the increased cost will come.

The House of Representatives recently passed a pension reform bill and Sen. Brown was named to the Conference Committee which will craft a compromise bill to send to the Governor.



**Sen. Brown at Jefferson Elementary School in Franklin for their reading celebration and Ice cream social.**

## BEACON HILL REPORT WITH SCOTT BROWN

The latest edition of Sen. Brown's cable show the "Beacon Hill Report" is now airing on local access cable networks. Be sure to check your local listings for this months episode. Sen. Brown answers constituents' questions on the air, so if you have a question you would like to ask, please e-mail Sen. Brown.

This edition's discussion will focus on Unemployment Issues. Sen. Brown's guests will be John O'Leary, Research Fellow with the Ash Institute at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government and Steve Poftak, Research Director at the Pioneer Institute.

***What do you want to see? Let us know if you have any ideas or topics for a future show!***

## MA GETAWAY GUIDES AVAILABLE

Sen. Brown is offering copies of "The 2009 Massachusetts Getaway Guide" to all interested parties.

The Massachusetts Getaway Guide is a comprehensive guide designed to promote awareness and visitation to the Bay State. It includes more than 2,000 attractions, features, outdoor activities, events and places to stay, plus trip-planning tips like regional information, pull-out maps, transportation, and visitor services.

To have a booklet mailed to you, contact Sen. Brown's office.



**Sen. Brown, Rep. Jim Valle and Bob Fahey, Franklin Veterans Agent**

# CONTACT SENATOR SCOTT BROWN

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## **Tear Off This Survey and Mail to Senator Brown!**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hold the line on taxes & spending                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Increasing local aid to our towns         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Addressing illegal immigration                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Protecting children from sexual predators |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Making sure veterans get the benefits they deserve | <input type="checkbox"/> Reforming state government                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting the public school system                | <input type="checkbox"/> Preserving the environment/Conservation   |

***\_ Scott, Keep up the good work!***

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE #** \_\_\_\_\_ **E-MAIL** \_\_\_\_\_

**COMMENTS** \_\_\_\_\_