



TOWN OF DOUGLAS

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Senator Richard T. Moore
Room 312D
State House
Boston, MA 02133

May 3, 2011

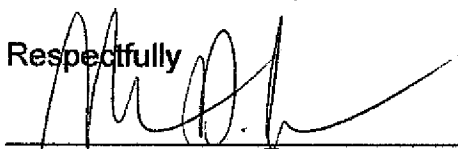
Dear Senator Moore,

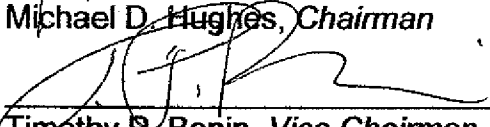
On behalf of the citizens of Douglas we urge you to support the health insurance reform legislation recently approved by the House of Representatives. As you know, this vital reform would give local officials the same power the state currently has in shaping employee health plans, and save taxpayers across the Commonwealth at least \$100 million a year. It would help protect education, public safety, and other vital municipal services, while still guaranteeing high quality health plans for local employees.

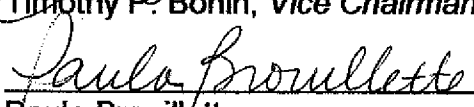
Labor unions are attempting to characterize this bill as a wholesale assault on collective bargaining – even though, under the House plan, municipal unions would retain more bargaining authority over health insurance than state employee unions currently have, and no one who works for a municipality will have a plan that isn't as good as, or better than, what state employees have.

The reality is that this reform is needed in order to protect municipal jobs and prevent further service cuts. The Town of Douglas, as well as all of the other cities and towns across the Commonwealth cannot afford to continue under this double standard. We need your assistance in this vital matter, and ask you to support this meaningful reform. Thank you.

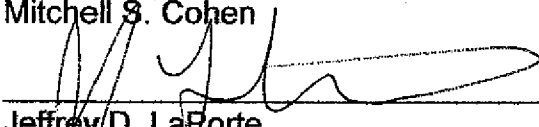
Respectfully


Michael D. Hughes, *Chairman*


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