



MASSACHUSETTS
MEDICAL SOCIETY

Massachusetts Chapter

OF THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS
INCORPORATED IN MASSACHUSETTS



MASSACHUSETTS ACADEMY
of FAMILY PHYSICIANS



Massachusetts
Chapter



ACOG
The American College of
Obstetricians and Gynecologists
Massachusetts Section



HCFA
Health Care For All
MASSACHUSETTS



June 16, 2026

Senator Karen E. Spilka
President, Massachusetts
Senate
State House, Room 332
Boston, MA 02133

Senator Michael J. Rodrigues
Chair, Senate Committee on
Ways and Means
State House, Room 212
Boston, MA 02133

Senator Cindy F. Friedman
Chair, Joint Committee on
Health Care Financing
State House, Room 313
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Senate President Spilka and Chairs Rodrigues & Friedman:

We, the undersigned organizations, write in support of amendment #16 to S.3116, *An Act relative to primary care for you*. This amendment would restore a primary care physician seat on the Health Policy Commission (HPC) Board and add a representative with expertise in representing community health centers.

We applaud the Senate’s leadership in advancing legislation to strengthen primary care access, affordability, and sustainability across the Commonwealth. As S.3116 gives the HPC significantly expanded responsibilities related to primary care—including oversight of the new Office of Primary Care and new authority related to establishing and enforcing primary care spending targets—it is essential that the Board itself has direct expertise from those delivering primary care to patients and communities.

This amendment would restore a primary care physician seat to the HPC board that was eliminated in Chapter 343 of the Acts of 2024. A practicing primary care physician would bring critical clinical insight into how policy decisions affect patients, care teams, access, workforce challenges, and the day-to-day realities of delivering high-quality primary care.

The amendment would also add a representative with expertise in representing community health centers. Community health centers are a cornerstone of the Commonwealth’s primary care system and serve many of the patients most affected by barriers to care, including low-income residents, MassHealth members, immigrants, older adults, and individuals in medically underserved communities. The health center perspective would provide important insight into

safety-net care, health equity, workforce shortages, behavioral health integration, and the operational realities of community-based primary care.

Together, these additions would strengthen the HPC Board's ability to effectively oversee and implement the Commonwealth's primary care reforms. If the Board is to play a central role in shaping primary care policy, its membership should reflect the clinical and community-based expertise necessary to guide that work.

We respectfully urge your support for and adoption of amendment #16.

Sincerely,

Massachusetts Medical Society

Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers

Health Care for All

Massachusetts Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics

Massachusetts Academy of Family Physicians

Massachusetts Chapter, American College of Physicians

Massachusetts Section, American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists