



PROGRESSIVE MASSACHUSETTS

statewide, grassroots organizing for progressive change in Massachusetts

At this very special holiday season, when our thoughts turn to family, friends and the bounty we have each received, it is important to remember those in the Commonwealth who struggle to make ends meet. They are not strangers. They are our neighbors and fellow residents and they desperately need the programs our Commonwealth can and does provide.

That's why I support REAL welfare reform which includes education, training and help with transportation and I oppose provisions that only further stigmatize the poor and undermine access to the critical supports that serve as a lifeline for low-income families when they have nowhere else to turn.

In particular, the upfront job search before applicants can get any help, work requirements for thousands of disabled parents, and other restrictive provisions would impose onerous and unnecessary restrictions on those turning to TAFDC as their family's last resort. These provisions are counterproductive and will cost the commonwealth in the long run.

I call on State Senator (Name) and State Representative (Name) to join me in opposing these provisions and passing real reform. With these improvements, we can make a huge difference in the lives of our fellow residents.