



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

**STATE SENATOR  
MICHAEL O. MOORE**

SECOND WORCESTER DISTRICT

State House, Room 518, Boston, MA 02133 (617) 722-1485

For Immediate Release:  
March 29, 2011

Contact: Jason Palitsch  
(617) 722-1485

**MOORE HOSTS BREAKFAST FOR AREA LEGISLATORS REGARDING THE IMPORTANCE  
OF KEEPING GLAVIN OPEN**

**Shrewsbury** – Senator Michael O. Moore (D-Millbury) today hosted a breakfast for Worcester-area legislators to educate them on the importance of keeping the Irving A. Glavin Regional Center in Shrewsbury open and operating. Glavin is one of six developmental centers located within the Commonwealth, and serves as a residential facility for individuals with severe developmental disabilities, many of whom had previously been placed in community-based group homes with unsuccessful results. In 2008, the administration announced its intention to close four of the six facilities, including Glavin.

In attendance at the breakfast were State Representatives Matthew A. Beaton (R-Shrewsbury), Anne M. Gobi (D-Spencer), Vincent A. Pedone (D-Worcester), Kimberly N. Ferguson (R-Holden), and Paul K. Frost (R-Auburn). Approximately 30 family members of Glavin residents, who are members of the “Friends of Glavin” organization, were on hand to share their experiences with legislators. The event was held at the Glavin Center.

“For the vast majority of people in the care of the Department of Developmental Disabilities, community-based group homes are the most appropriate option. However, there remains a small segment of that population with more advance disabilities, who require a more intensive level of care,” said Sen. Moore. “Closing Glavin, Monson, and Templeton will not result in a cost-savings for the Commonwealth, as evidence suggests that some community placements out of Glavin have resulted in the cost-per-resident tripling. In addition to financial considerations, however, we need to look at what is best for these residents and their families, who want to remain where they are.”

Sen. Moore provided those in attendance with an overview of the situation, as well as an outline of the strategy that legislators will use to attempt to keep the facilities open. Dr. Alfred Bacotti of Shrewsbury, who served as Director of the Glavin Center for 30 years before retiring in 2008, explained the value of Glavin and similar facilities to families and residents who did not find adequate care in community-based settings. Dr. Bacotti also disputed statements made by the Department of Developmental Disabilities that closing the facilities will result in cost-savings, noting that Glavin provides almost all necessary services in-house, and that many additional costs are not factored in to estimates surrounding group homes with no permanent staff. Those costs include psychologists and nursing staff.

Those present also expressed their feelings that residents at Glavin were a strong part of the Shrewsbury community, noting the participation of residents in local sporting events, and frequent journeys into the town.

###