



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
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**MOORE, POLITO OPPOSE PATRICK BUDGET ITEM THAT ALLOWED FOR SALE
OF GLAVIN, SURROUNDING LAND**

Boston - Senator Michael O. Moore (D-Millbury) and Representative Karyn E. Polito (R-Shrewsbury) today came out against a portion of an Outside Section in Governor Patrick's proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2011. The item would allow the state to sell the land on Lake Street in Shrewsbury which includes the Irving A. Glavin Regional Center. In December of 2008, the administration announced that it intends to close Glavin by 2013. Both Moore and Polito oppose the closure, and have fought to keep the center open.

"I will make removing this portion Outside Section 33 from the budget a top priority of mine," said Sen. Moore. "This would allow the Department of Developmental Services, which is trying to close Glavin, to sell the property. I remain committed to trying to keep Glavin's doors open. Glavin residents and the people of Shrewsbury deserve better than this."

"This language tucked into an outside section of the Governors budget shows how disconnected this administration is when it comes to servicing the needs of our most vulnerable citizens," said Rep. Polito. "I strongly oppose this language and will work with my legislative colleagues to make sure this action is not taken in the house budget. I will work to preserve both the Glavin center and the recreational and agricultural uses that exist on the land."

Outside Section 33, part of the Governor's proposed budget, is aimed at generating additional revenues by selling certain parcels of state land. Amongst the items listed is "Those certain parcels of land located in the town of Shrewsbury, together with any buildings and structures thereon, known as the Glavin regional center."

The state budget process begins with the Governor releasing his proposed budget, which will be followed by proposals by the House and Senate. Once the House and Senate have each passed their own respective budgets, the two are reconciled in conference committee. The Governor may then veto individual items, which the Legislature may override with a two-thirds majority vote.

The Department of Developmental Services announced in December of 2008 that it intends to close four of the Commonwealth's six developmental centers, including Glavin, by 2013, and place the residents into community-based group homes. Moore and Polito have argued that, while the community is an acceptable option for the majority of DDS clients, a small segment of that population needs a more intense level of care, which Glavin has adequately and professionally provided.

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