

REP. KATE HOGAN'S SENIOR NEWS



Friends,

I take great pride in serving as House Chair of the Joint Committee on Public Health—the committee responsible for vetting all health-related bills before the Legislature. After holding hearings on the 300+ bills that were referred to us this session, the Committee voted in February to advance a number of bills that will positively impact health care in the Commonwealth. Two of the several bills that would help improve the health of our seniors, in particular, are:

- **House Bill 2440, “An Act relative to protecting senior health.”** This bill would require hospitals to offer flu immunizations to all inpatients 65 years of age and older prior to discharge between the dates of October 1st and March 1st. The flu can be particularly dangerous for seniors; it is important for seniors who are already in the hospital dealing with medical issues to have easy access to the vaccines that keep them healthy.
- **House Bill 1187, “An Act relative to home health and hospice aides.”** This bill would allow registered nurses to delegate the administration of or assistance with the administration of certain medications in the home to a home health aide who has completed required training, making it easier for seniors to get the health care they need in the comfort of their own homes.

After receiving a favorable report from the Joint Committee on Public Health, both H.2440 and H.1187 were referred to the Joint Committee on Health Care Financing, where they will be evaluated for their fiscal impact to the Commonwealth. I will continue to track these and all other senior-related bills closely as we move toward the final months of this legislative session.

State Budget Preview

Later this month, the House of Representatives will begin crafting our state budget for Fiscal Year 2019. As always, I am committed to advocating for programs that help meet the unique needs of our state’s growing senior population. Some of the programs I will be fighting to fund this year include Councils on Aging, Home Care Services, Supportive Senior Housing, Elder Protective Services, Elder Nutrition (including Meals on Wheels), and Elder Homeless Placement. Once the House budget is finalized in May, I will provide an update on how these programs were funded. If you have any questions about the state budget, or if there are any specific programs you want me to keep an eye on throughout budget deliberations, please don’t hesitate to call the State House at (617) 722-2130.

Rep. Hogan’s Office Hours

- District Office Hours will be held in **Hudson** on Thursday, April 19th from 6 to 7 p.m. at the Hudson Public Library, 3 Washington Street.

All questions, ideas, or concerns are welcome. If you are unable to attend office hours, call the State House at (617) 722-2130 to schedule an appointment. Staff is also available at the District Office on all Mondays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. (*Closed Holiday Mondays*).

Kate Hogan, State Representative

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