

# Amendment 32 Outreach Guide

Securing 10,000 Jobs for Young Adults with Barriers to Employment

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## Call to Action

**Exciting news:** Senator Eldridge in the The Massachusetts State Senate just introduced an amendment to the Senate ARPA allocation, calling for an investment of \$50,000,000 in American Rescue Plan Act funding to support employment programs for youth and young adults with barriers to employment! This is an critical opportunity to create an investment in our Commonwealth's young people, and Breaktime, I Have A Future, and the Massachusetts Communities Action Network are grateful for the partnership of 12 MA nonprofits in achieving this humongous milestone (see [here](#) for our full list of partners and our collective proposal).

**What still needs to happen:** The Senate will be holding a hearing on this funding package (also known (also known as Senate Bill 2564) this Wednesday, November 10th. During this hearing, they will consider amendments to the line item we are supporting (also known as Amendment 32), and Breaktime, I Have A Future, and the Massachusetts Communities Action Network have worked with Senator Jamie Eldridge to file this amendment:

Mr. Eldridge, Ms. Jehlen, Ms. DiZoglio and Mr. Moore move that the proposed new text be amended in section 2, in item 1599-2037, by adding the following words:- "provided, that the secretary of administration and finance shall transfer \$50,000,000 from this item to item 7002-0012 for the summer job programs and other youth-at-risk employment programs, including programs that serve youths, including lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and questioning youth, youth of color and youth who are not more than 25 years of age and are experiencing housing insecurity in response to increased economic insecurity as a result of the 2019 novel coronavirus pandemic; and by striking out the figure "\$100,000,000" and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- "\$150,000,000".

**\*\*Please use [this form](#) to keep Breaktime updated or to send us any questions.\*\***

We need your help in getting these two amendments passed! Below is a guide to how you can ask your state senator to support this effort.

## Overall Process

**The Senate will be voting on these amendments on Wednesday, November 10, so we would appreciate you reaching out to your Senator ASAP.** Here are a couple steps to get you started:

1. Use [this tool](#) to find the contact information for your local Senator in Massachusetts (we are only contacting **Senators**, not Representatives, at this stage).
2. Once you have the phone number of your Senator, go to the [Initial Call](#) section to get started. (*FYI: If your Senator is Eldridge, Jehlen, DiZoglio, or Moore, then you do not need to do this because they have already signed on.*)
3. Keep us updated on your progress and send us any questions you have using [this Google Form](#).

## Initial Call

A phone call during business hours (9-5pm) is usually the most effective first step in getting the support of a legislator. Remember that **you are your legislator's boss**. You have the power to vote them out of office. Don't forget that. **Your legislator's office wants to hear what you think** as a constituent, and usually the person picking up the phone is a high school or college student from the area with whom you might be able to find a lot in common. With that said, enter the call with confidence and use the following script to help you out. **Please get the Senator's phone number from [this website](#)**, and feel free to read from the call script below or use it as a guide:

- *If someone picks up the phone:*
  - CALL RECIPIENT: "Hi, this is \_\_\_ from Senator \_\_\_'s Office. How may I assist you today?"
  - YOU: "Hi, this is \_\_\_\_\_, and I live at \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_, MA. I am calling today to urge Senator \_\_\_\_\_ to support Amendment 32 in the Senate ARPA package (S. 2564). Filed by Sen. Eldridge, Amendment 32 will invest \$50,000,000 to create 10,000 jobs for youth with barriers to employment across the Commonwealth. Given that upwards of 57,000 young people are disconnected from work and school (many due to the pandemic), this historic investment in youth jobs will provide for a more equitable recovery to the pandemic while investing in the long-term success of our young people. In addition, Amendment 32 will ensure that LGBTQ+, BIPOC, and other young adults experiencing homelessness are made a priority in the distribution of this funding. Is the Senator planning to support Amendment 32?"
  - *If the person on the other end says yes:*

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- YOU: “That is great! I am proud that our district is represented by someone who believes in the importance of empowering young adults with meaningful, empowering work opportunities. Is Senator \_\_\_\_\_ officially cosponsoring these amendments?”
  - *If yes:*
    - YOU: “Great! I am really glad to hear that. Thank you so much for your time today, and please pass on my gratitude to Senator \_\_\_\_\_.”
  - *If no or I don’t know:*
    - YOU: “Senator \_\_\_\_\_’s cosponsorship of this amendment would be tremendously impactful. I know that the Senator believes in the importance of supporting young people in our district with good-paying, empowering job opportunities, and I think this amendment would be a perfect way to demonstrate that. Would you like me to follow up with more information about this?”
    - *If yes:*
      - Go to [Follow-Up Email after Call](#)
    - *If no:*
      - Tell the Senator’s office that you are disappointed to hear of the Senator’s lack of interest in the employment of young adults in the district, and you will make sure to keep this in mind next time you are voting. (Remember: You are their boss!)
  - *If the person on the other end says I do not know:*
    - YOU: “Well, I would be happy to provide more information on this very important and impactful amendment. What is the best email for me to send a follow-up to?”
      - Go to [Follow-Up Email after Call](#) once you have the email
  - *If the person on the other end says no:*
    - Tell the Senator’s office that you are disappointed to hear of the Senator’s lack of interest in the employment of young adults in the district, and you will make sure to keep this in mind next time you are voting. (Remember: You are their boss!)
- *If no one picks up the phone:*
  - Leave a message saying: “Hi, this is \_\_\_\_\_, and I live at \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_, MA. My callback number is \_\_\_\_\_--again, that’s \_\_\_\_\_. I am calling today to urge Senator \_\_\_\_\_ to support Amendment 32 in the Senate ARPA package (S. 2564). Amendment 32 will invest \$50,000,000 to create 10,000 jobs for youth with barriers to employment across the Commonwealth. Given that upwards of 57,000 young people are disconnected from work and school (many due to the pandemic), this historic investment in youth jobs will provide for a more equitable

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recovery to the pandemic while investing in the long-term success of our young people. In addition, this amendment will ensure that LGBTQ+, BIPOC, and other young adults experiencing homelessness are made a priority in the distribution of this funding. Please call me back to learn more about these amendments. Thank you, and have a great rest of your day.”

- Go to [Follow-Up Email after Call](#) for next steps

## Follow-Up Email after Call

Legislators and their aides are very busy, so it is important to follow-up as quickly as possible. Using the email(s) provided to you in your call (or the email on [this website](#) if they didn't pick up), please send an email along the following lines:

**SUBJECT: Following Up from Our Call about Amendment 32**

Hi \_\_\_\_\_,

My name is \_\_\_\_\_, and I called earlier today. I live at \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_, MA, and I am a proud member of Senator \_\_\_\_\_'s district.

**As a constituent of this district, I strongly urge Senator \_\_\_\_\_ to cosponsor Amendment 32 in the Senate ARPA package (S.2564).** Amendment 32 will invest \$50,000,000 to create 10,000 jobs for youth with barriers to employment across the Commonwealth. Given that upwards of 57,000 young people are disconnected from work and school (many due to the pandemic), this historic investment in youth jobs will provide for a more equitable recovery to the pandemic while investing in the long-term success of our young people. In addition, this amendment will ensure that LGBTQ+, BIPOC, and other young adults experiencing homelessness are made a priority in the distribution of this funding.

Based on Senator \_\_\_\_\_'s belief in the importance of empowering young people with barriers to employment in our district with quality work opportunities, I expect that the Senator will support these amendments.

Thank you again, and I hope to see Senator \_\_\_\_\_'s name on the list of cosponsors.

Best,

\_\_\_\_\_

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## Following Up if Email Does Not Get a Response

Again, Senator's and their offices are really busy, so **don't give up!** *You* are the Senator's boss as their constituent, and they are doing a bad job if they are not getting back to you. Keep calling the Senator's office, and keep sending follow up emails. Just remember who you are supporting by doing this: You are helping to empower young adults experiencing homelessness and other barriers with skill-building, empowering job opportunities funded by the state government. We need to fight hard to get these opportunities for our peers experiencing homelessness, so **keep trying, and believe in yourself!**