

4,000 Voters to Tell Kerry and Brown: “No More Cuts, Tax the 1%, End the Wars, Invest in Jobs!”

For release: Tuesday, November 15, 2011, 12:30 pm
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What: Volunteers will present more than 4,000 letters collected from Massachusetts voters on Election Day urging Senators Kerry and Brown to “Tax the 1%” and cut the Pentagon as the ***only*** way to create jobs and reduce the deficit without cutting vital programs for the poor and middle class

Who: 75 representatives from tenant, community, peace and labor organizations (list below)

When: Tuesday, November 15, 12:30 p.m.

Where: Plaza outside Senator John Kerry’s Office, One Bowdoin Square, Boston (corner of Cambridge and New Chardon Street, near Government Center), then march to Senator Brown’s office at the JFK Building nearby

Background: In August, Congress cut \$900 billion from vital government programs, and appointed a “Supercommittee” to recommend an *additional* \$1.2 trillion to reduce the federal deficit. ***The Supercommittee has a deadline of November 23*** to make its recommendations, either to raise new revenues and/or make further cuts. ***Senator Kerry (D-MA) is one of 12 members of the Supercommittee.*** Senator Brown (R-MA) will have a key role to play to get anything passed.

Senator Kerry is reportedly seeking a “deal” this week that could cut low income programs even more than the \$1 trillion proposed in recent Democratic offers. And Senator Brown adamantly opposes any tax increases or military cuts which alone can create jobs and avert deep cuts to Medicare, Social Security and low income programs like Section 8 and Food Stamps.

“I collected hundreds of letters from voters and leaders in my community to send a clear message to Senators Kerry and Brown: No more cuts to the 99%, invest in jobs, tax the 1% and cut the Pentagon instead,” comments Elaine Marin-Ruff, a disabled mother of two from Roslindale whose husband lost his job and now relies on Social Security.

Marin will help ***present a stack of 4,000 letters addressed to Senators Kerry and Brown*** to representatives of their offices, who have confirmed their participation. Letters were collected from “good voters” on Election Day by volunteers affected by proposed cuts to Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security, Section 8 and other vital programs.

Representatives from Kerry and Brown’s offices will be on hand to accept the letters and pledge to respond to all. Demonstrators will ask Kerry and Brown to oppose any “Supercommittee” deal that cuts vital programs and fails to create jobs, tax the 1% or cut unneeded military spending.

Participating organizations include: *Massachusetts Alliance of HUD Tenants, Massachusetts Peace Action, Massachusetts AFL-CIO, Fund Our Communities Not War – Massachusetts, American Federation of Government Employees/Local 3258, Massachusetts Affordable Housing Alliance, New England United for Justice, MoveOn/Boston, Massachusetts Jobs with Justice, Progressive Democrats of America, Arlington 25% Campaign, Coalition for Human Needs.*

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