

Why do we need the Statewide Enabling Act?

This legislation would make it possible to preserve all Section 8 developments permanently and to create more affordable housing by lowering and regulating rents at formerly subsidized properties. Additionally, this bill does not cost cities or the state one cent! The City Councils of Boston, New Bedford, Lawrence, Quincy, and Salem have all stated that they would opt-in to the powers granted in this legislation if it passed.

The passage of Chapter 40T in November of 2009 has not stopped the expiring subsidy crisis. Although tenants now receive extended notice about when their subsidies end, and receive limited rent increases for 3 years after the expiration of subsidies, 40T has not been successful in ensuring that developments remain affordable for the families that have lived in them for decades.

Something more is needed! The Statewide Enabling Act would protect tenants in a more permanent manner and would affect buildings that were lost before 2009.