

MACDC's Campaign for Our Neighborhoods

Support Local Non-profits in the Economic Development Bill

MACDC asks the House to fully include CDCs in their Economic Development and Jobs Creation Bill

Community Development Corporations are committed to ensuring neighborhoods in Massachusetts are thriving, vibrant places where residents can afford to live and work. CDCs create and preserve homes, jobs and businesses and provide a local means for residents to engage in community improvement efforts.

During 2009, Massachusetts CDCs' successfully:

- Built or preserved **over 1,200** homes
- Created or preserved **over 2,500** job opportunities
- Assisted **over 2,000** entrepreneurs start, grow, or stabilize their businesses through technical assistance programs and financial support
- Supported **over 35,000** families with housing, jobs, or other services
- Attracted over **\$275 Million** worth of public and private investment for community revitalization
- Engaged **over 2,000** community leaders who volunteered in CDC activity

(from 2010 MACDC GOALS Initiative Report)

Today's fiscal crisis – foreclosures, faltering small business, record job losses – underscores the importance of having a strong community based development sector to help communities and families recover from the economic downturn.

CDCs need tools and resources to support the communities they serve.

The Senate passed its economic development bill (S. 2380) in early April. Both its version and the Governor's (H. 4866) incorporate *An Act to Strengthen Community Development in the Commonwealth* (S. 89 and H. 210) sponsored by Senator Harriette Chandler and Representative Steven Walsh, which would modernize the state statute (Chapter 40F) that established a formal legal framework to recognize and support CDCs under state law. In addition, **legislation includes leadership seats for the community economic development professionals on newly created loan fund boards (although the Senate limits representation to one seat and MACDC is asking for two seats)**, creates a new CDC certification program and requires DHCD to report annually on how the state is partnering with and supporting CDCs across the commonwealth.

MACDC asks the House to include both the updated definition and board seats in its economic development legislation and Governor to make this bill - with support and resources for CDCs - into law.

Support fully integrating CDCs in the House's economic development bill.

MACDC

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