



Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON, MA 02133-1054

KATHI-ANNE REINSTEIN
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June 4, 2013

Senator John Keenan
Representative Jeffrey Sanchez
Joint Committee on Public Health
State House, Room 130
Boston, Massachusetts 02133

Dear Chairman Keenan and Chairman Sanchez,

I write to you today in strong support of House 2103 which is *An Act relative to folic acid awareness and birth defects prevention*.

This bill seeks to require the Department of Public Health to administer a folic acid awareness initiative to patients, families, and health care providers, while consulting with other maternal and child health organizations including MassHealth. This is critical because about 3,000 pregnancies are affected with neural tube defects, which studies have shown 70% of these cases could be prevented if women consumed the proper amount of folic acid before becoming pregnant and during pregnancy.

I respectfully request swift and favorable release of this legislation. I thank you in advance for your consideration, and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (617) 722-2180.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathi Anne Reinstein". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kathi-Anne Reinstein
2nd Assistant Majority Leader