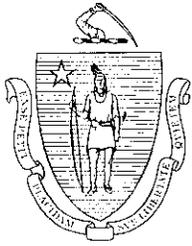


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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1054

MARJORIE C. DECKER
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

25th MIDDLESEX DISTRICT
Cambridge

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OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

Committees:
Financial Services
Health Care Financing
Housing

July 7, 2014

The Honorable Cambridge City Council
City Hall
795 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Councilors,

I am in receipt of your Resolution on Restorative Justice and have expressed my support to the Senate Ways & Means Committee members.

Restorative justice views criminal behavior more comprehensively than merely handing down punishment. As you know, S2078 would create a formal process comprising a partnership between the community and the police that is estimated to be six times more cost effective than the basis criminal justice approach.

The purpose of this enabling legislation is to make the Commonwealth's cities, towns and law enforcement more at ease and readily accepting of this alternative process, which costs taxpayers nothing. Some 29 states already have adopted such legislation and we would all be proud to make Massachusetts number 30.

The members of the Legislature who have worked to effect this law are proud and grateful to have Cambridge among its most ardent supporters.

Sincerely,

Marjorie C. Decker
25th Middlesex