



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
MASSACHUSETTS SENATE

February 11, 2026

The Hon. Maura T. Healey
Governor of the Commonwealth
Massachusetts State House, Room 280
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Governor Healey,

We write to express our concern with the GIC plan design proposal that would shift roughly \$120 million in annual costs onto the backs of our constituents who serve as state employees.

These plan design changes, which will be voted on at the next GIC meeting on February 12, will require hard-working state employees and their families to absorb an unfair share of economic burden beyond the normal annualized plan increases, which we are collectively forced to absorb each year.

We agree with your goal and vision for the FY27 Budget: make life more affordable for Massachusetts residents and businesses. We also believe that same sentiment should be reflected in the Commonwealth's approach to health care costs for state employees. Currently, the plan design changes being considered at the GIC will do the opposite for many of our constituents and families if approved. Copays and deductibles could become so unaffordable that families may be forced to choose other essential items like food and shelter over medicine and wellness care.

The potential budget savings of this plan redesign are a mere fraction of the GIC budget and unlikely to solve any structural deficits. Instead, this proposal would permanently shift costs onto the backs of the state workforce unfairly. This is illustrated by your mid-year request of \$300 million for the GIC that we will be considering shortly. In that context, GIC members will be left with a permanent, higher-cost plan design, when instead we should focus on solutions to a short-term structural deficit or an attempt to rein in spiraling health care industry costs.

As a result, future GIC costs could grow exponentially as an unintended consequence of employees putting off preventative care and medicine now that will turn into costly surgeries and treatments tomorrow. We believe the proposed plan design changes are imprudent and could bring real harm to the state workforce.

The proposal being considered by the GIC cannot be the solution to high healthcare costs. We respectfully request that you support maintaining the current plan design structure at the GIC.

Your support is critical to ensuring that these changes are not implemented by the GIC Commissioner on February 12, 2026.

We need to ensure that the GIC continues to provide affordable access to high-quality healthcare for our public employees and their families.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Nick Collins
State Senator
First Suffolk District



Adam Gómez
State Senator
Hampshire District



Jason Lewis
State Senator
Fifth Middlesex District



Ryan C. Fattman
State Senator
Worcester and Hampden District



Paul Mark
State Senator
Berkshire, Hampden, Franklin and Hampshire District



Paul R. Feeney
State Senator
Bristol and Norfolk District



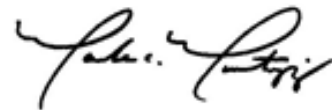
Michael Moore
State Senator
Second Worcester District



Patrick M. O'Connor
State Senator
First Plymouth and Norfolk District



Michael Rush
State Senator
Norfolk and Suffolk District



Mark C. Montigny
State Senator
Second Bristol and Plymouth District



James B. Eldridge
State Senator
Middlesex and Worcester District



Michael D. Brady
State Senator
Second Plymouth and Norfolk District



Pavel M. Payano
State Senator
First Essex District



William J. Driscoll Jr.
State Senator
Norfolk, Plymouth, and Bristol District



Lydia M. Edwards
State Senator
Third Suffolk District



Bruce E. Tarr
State Senator
First Essex and Middlesex District



Sal N. DiDomenico
State Senator
Middlesex and Suffolk District



John J. Cronin
State Senator
Worcester and Middlesex District



Liz Miranda
State Senator
Second Suffolk District



Patricia D. Jehlen
State Senator
Second Middlesex



Peter J. Durant
State Senator
Worcester and Hampshire District