



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Health and Human Services  
One Ashburton Place, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

CHARLES D. BAKER  
Governor

KARYN E. POLITO  
Lieutenant Governor

MARYLOU SUDDERS  
Secretary

Tel: (617) 573-1600  
Fax: (617) 573-1891  
[www.mass.gov/eohhs](http://www.mass.gov/eohhs)

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Dear Public and Subsidized Housing Property Managers:

The *Commission to Study Ways to Prevent Bullying of Tenants in Public and Subsidized Multi-Family Housing* (chapter 2 of the Resolves of 2016) is requesting your assistance in the distribution of a survey to assist the Commission in its work to better understand the underlying issues of bullying in public and subsidized multi-family housing, the prevalence of bullying and the avenues by which people who are bullied seek help. The Commission is charged with investigating and studying the prevalence and impact of the bullying of tenants, with a focus on elderly and disabled tenants, in public and subsidized multi-family housing.

This survey will be instrumental in the Commissions' deliberations, and, ultimately, inform the report which will include the results of its investigation, specific recommendations, including the possibility of new legislation, to the General Court no later than December 31, 2017. The information collected will remain protected and no identifying information will be made public. We would like to hear from residents as well as property managers, staff, resident services coordinators and others within your housing portfolio. This survey seeks to measure the impact and prevalence of bullying. Thus, we want to capture both experiences with bullying, as well as, feedback from people who live in healthy, positive situations free from any type or form of bullying.

The questions focus on your experience with the residential community where you live or work now (not a historical look-back). We want to hear about the frequency, perceived motivations and efforts to have bullying addressed in public or subsidized residential communities for elderly and people with disabilities in Massachusetts. This research will be used to help the members of the Commission better gauge the presence of bullying in public and multifamily housing; the conditions that enable or stop bullying, and to find ways to reduce and eliminate bullying in these residential communities.

The survey can be accessed by clicking the following link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DHCDMassHousingBullyingSurvey>

**The survey will remain open until Friday, October 27<sup>th</sup>.** Please complete the survey by that time.

Please post this letter and forward this email to residents and ask your residents to send the survey out to other residents who also live in your residential community. We are seeking to touch as many property staff and residents as possible through this survey. If you have any questions regarding this survey or technical difficulties in completing the survey, please email Michael Kelleher at [Michael.kelleher2@massmail.state.ma.us](mailto:Michael.kelleher2@massmail.state.ma.us).

Many thanks for your participation in this survey!