

VOTE SEPT. 10



MEL KING

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STATE REP. WARD 4



Dear Neighbor:

During my first term as your State Representative from the Fourth Suffolk District, I have been learning how to use the legislative process. As a member of the Education Committee, the Massachusetts Black Caucus, and the Democratic Study Group, I have filed, sponsored and followed numerous bills dealing with housing, jobs, improving education, providing health care and protecting human welfare rights. Some 15 pieces of the legislation I sponsored or co-sponsored have been signed into law including a bill to stop experimentation with psychotropic drugs on our school children, a bill making Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday a state holiday, a bill allowing citizens to turn unused state owned land into gardens, and a bill providing for welfare checks to be mailed directly to banks if desired by the recipient. I have also worked on bills related to drug abuse, gun control and development of the southwest corridor.

Along with my legislative work, I was appointed Chairperson of the Governor's Committee to study the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination, Chairperson of the Legislative Commission to study a Community Development Bank, and member of the Legislative Commission on Equal Education Opportunity.

The Americans for Democratic Action, Common Cause, the Massachusetts Association of Older Americans, and Ward 4 Democratic Committee have voted their approval of my votes and legislative record.

In our community, I have tried to keep in touch by being on the streets and in meetings with you (an average of 10 community meetings a week). I sponsored a community information center to provide access to the information that comes through a Representative's office and to take initiative on community issues. Efforts were concentrated on grime, crime, and police protection, and the development of housing and play space. With the help of many neighbors, we have held clean-ups, organized block groups, worked on the Hemenway Street buildings, the Edgerly Road Playground, and keeping the Perkins School open.

We still have much to do to improve the quality of life in our community. I believe we can save our neighborhoods if we work to bring all the people of the District together to get behind action. Many issues we face are in the hands of our city government which means we have to convince the Mayor and City Council to meet our needs. The best way to do that is to get all our neighbors registered and voting. Important votes are coming up on the new plan for a school committee this fall, the legislative primaries and finals, and the next mayor's election in 1975. The more votes we cast, the more city officials will listen when we ask for action. Among other things, we need to support efforts to provide decent housing for all South Enders and work to get local contracts for garbage and other city services that are inadequate.

At the state level, we need legislation to reduce the burden on the property taxes, jobs, health care and economic development. Together we can make our new District what we want.

Please give me a call at 727-2783 if you would like to work on voter registration or if you have other ideas for us to pursue. Primary day is September 10, 1974. Even though I am unopposed, I hope you will cast your vote as a way of saying, "Yes, Let's do it."

Sincerely,

*Mel King*

MELVIN KING  
REPRESENTATIVE

4 Yarmouth Street  
South End