



Metro Housing Legislative Priorities for 2019-20 January 2019

MRVP Reforms

House Docket 3872 – Rep. Adrian Madaro

Senate Docket 864 – Sen. Jamie Eldridge

- This legislation will make programmatic fixes to the Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program including raising the fair market rent standard for rental vouchers to be more comparable to the federal Section 8 program, requiring inspections to ensure homes are safe for residents, increasing administrative fees, and improving data collection.

Rent Arrearage Program

House Docket 2395 – Rep. Marjorie Decker

- Re-establish a statewide rental arrearage program to help households of all compositions (individuals, families, elders, people with disabilities) avoid homelessness by providing assistance with back rent through a RAFT-like program.

Housing Service Coordinator

House Docket 2600 – Rep. Kevin Honan

- The bill creates a Housing Services Coordinators program to assist residents in subsidized housing and helps to retain tenancies. The service coordinators will help mediate disputes between landlords and tenants, make referrals to homelessness prevention programs like RAFT, and will coordinate economic self-sufficiency services.