

October 2012



League of Women Voters®

Massachusetts

ACTION ALERT!

This week there are hearings on revised Department of Housing and Community Development Regulations for Emergency Shelter. In the absence of extreme conditions such as fire, domestic abuse or foreclosure, DHCD regulations require that "the children of the household are in a housing situation not meant for human habitation" and where there is a substantial health and safety risk if the family remains there.

The League does not believe that emergency shelter should be withheld from families unless and until the family has already spent time in such situations. Many families are spending overnights in vehicles, parks, going to hospital Emergency Rooms, or staying with dangerous individuals because they have been turned away from shelters.

Please call the [Governor](#) and your [state legislators](#) and tell them you want the state to provide a safety net for all Massachusetts children when their families are homeless. Making them first spend time in unsafe situations is not acceptable.

Click [here](#) to find your state legislators.