

Disability Rights

Don Berwick understands that disability rights are civil rights. Disability rights are human rights. He acknowledges the importance of full inclusion and salutes the rallying cry of the disability rights movement:

"Nothing About Us Without Us!"

Dr. Berwick's life has been one of service, including a stint as head of the Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS). He supports national disability policy: to ensure equality of opportunity, full participation, independent living, and economic self-sufficiency for individuals with disabilities.

As Governor, Don would enforce and strengthen Massachusetts laws and regulations to improve the lives of people with disabilities. He understands that "disability is a natural part of the human experience and in no way diminishes the right of individuals to participate in or contribute to society."

Top priorities in a **Berwick** Administration would include:

- Full implementation of Olmstead (the Massachusetts "<u>Community First</u>" initiative)
- Embrace and expand Medicaid programs and Waivers, including "money follows the person," to improve opportunities for independent living
- Reform our system of care for chronic conditions, long term care, and end of life care
- Expand and strengthen anti-bullying measures
- Embrace full accessibility in all spheres; physical, technological, and social
- Expand housing options and availability for people with disabilities
- Revive the Model Employer initiative
- Establish tax-advantaged disability savings accounts
- End sheltered workshops
- Improve public transportation options and availability
- Transform poverty programs to remove penalties for success for people with disabilities

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For information on the Berwick campaign and to sign up: http://www.berwickforgovernor.com/