



MANS&C

The Massachusetts Association of Nonprofit Schools and Colleges

MANS&C Board Supports BU before Biosafety Commission



MANS&C has stated its support for the Boston University Bio Lab in testimony submitted to the Boston Biosafety Committee, whose approval would be a near-final step in allowing the lab to begin research.

MANS&C Legislative Counsel John J. Spillane presented the board’s position in written testimony submitted at a recent public hearing of the committee.

“The Boston University National Emerging Infectious Disease Laboratories (NEIDL) is a prime example of the types of considerable and beneficial contributions Massachusetts’ nonprofit educational institutions make to our local economy,” Spillane said.

The facility has undergone years of intense scrutiny on the local, state and national level, he pointed out, cautioning that:

“Undermining the intent of this development project, which has satisfactorily met all local permitting and development requirements, is a troubling precedent for the state’s nonprofit community, a precedent that could potentially discourage private nonprofit institutions from investing in future development projects that would provide economic benefit to the commonwealth.”

The lab’s cutting-edge research will be used to diagnose, treat and cure infectious diseases for which no cures currently exist, Spillane said, adding that the lab also will benefit the commonwealth’s innovation economy.

On behalf of the MANS&C board, he asked the committee to determine that the permit application is complete and to recommend its final approval by the Boston Public Health Commission. The Boston Biosafety Committee is an advisory group to the commission.

Legislative Report:

New Session Opens with Some Familiar Bills

A new two-year legislative session opened in January on Beacon Hill, bringing with it both new and old challenges among its 5,875 recently filed bills.

The bills are currently being processed in the House and Senate clerk’s offices, where they are recorded, numbered and then assigned to appropriate joint committees.

While this is going on, MANS&C Legislative Counsel John J. Spillane is using a comprehensive bill-tracking system to flag bills that are of potential concern to our MANS&C members. Several are bills that MANS&C helped turn back during the last session.

Among them are measures that would establish a special commission to study “the use and effectiveness of the Dover Amendment,” which grants nonprofit educational institutions exemptions from certain zoning restrictions. This bill was re-filed by its sponsor, Sen. Michael Moore.

Another bill re-filed by Sen. Moore would establish detailed procedural requirements for nonprofit colleges and universities regarding dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking.

cont. on page 2 ›

CONTENTS

President’s Letter:	
MANS&C Stands by Its Members	2
Find Your Legislator	2
Meet Sen. Michael D. Brady	2
Who’s Who on the Education and Higher Education Committees	3
Who’s Who on the Revenue Committee	3

cont. from page 1 >

Preliminary indications are that a number of bills this session will focus on child protection, including student privacy, bullying, concussions, sexual assault and other issues. Another focus will be school bus safety, including seatbelts on buses, health exams for bus drivers and cameras to photograph vehicles that fail to stop for school buses.

Other bills would give private school students access to the MCAS exams, and college students would gain the right to counsel for some school disciplinary hearings.

As more details become available, MANS&C will inform members via email, LinkedIn, our newsletter and the MANS&C website, www.mansac.org.

Find Your Legislator

To find the names and contact information for your state representative or senator, go to <https://malegislature.gov/Search/FindMyLegislator>.

The state legislature's website, <https://malegislature.gov/>, also has a wide range of useful information about hearings and events, the state budget, bills, laws and much more.

MANS&C Stands by Its Members

PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Two events in recent weeks highlight the unmatched benefits that MANS&C provides to its members.

First, MANS&C's esteemed Legislative Counsel, John J. Spillane, began analyzing the huge number of bills – nearly 6,000 of them -- that lawmakers filed in the opening weeks of the new session on Beacon Hill. John's research will enable MANS&C to present our members with useful summaries of bills that pertain to our institutions. He also will follow each bill through the two years of the current session, testify at hearings and keep members informed when we need to take action.

Fortunately for MANS&C members, John has an impressive record in turning back bills that would threaten our institutions' independence and economic

security. Few of us have the personnel to do what John does so well, or the budget to hire our own legislative representatives.

The second example of the benefits of MANS&C membership is outlined in this newsletter's article about the Boston University biolab. Representing the MANS&C board, John recently presented written testimony at a crucial hearing, urging that the biolab be allowed to begin operating. He also pointed out that denying permission would discourage other nonprofits from investing in future developments that would benefit Massachusetts.

In short, these two examples demonstrate that the MANS&C board stands shoulder to shoulder with our members when they need our support and it has the long-term interests of all of our members at heart.

I hope you take advantage of the opportunity to join MANS&C. Please send in your membership application today and experience the benefits of MANS&C membership for your institution.

Best Regards,

Julaine McInnis
MANS&C President

Meet Sen. Michael D. Brady

After only two years in the Senate, Michael D. Brady was recently named Senate chairman of the Joint Committee on Revenue – one of the most influential committees on Beacon Hill.

Sen. Brady is a Democrat who lives in Brockton and is a life-long resident of his district, which includes Brockton, East Bridgewater (precincts 1 and 2), Halifax, Hanover, Hanson, Plympton, Whitman and Easton (precincts 1 and 2).

He was elected to the House in 2008 and then won a special to the Senate in 2015.

Throughout his time on Beacon Hill, he has been a strong support of economic developments and gateway cities, CORI reform and mortgage foreclosure legislation.

Sen. Brady is a Brockton High School graduate and attended Massasoit Community College while working at local businesses. He is a graduate of the Metropolitan Life Insurance School and went on to become a Massachusetts licensed insurance agent specializing in life, disability and annuity products. In 1995 he started his own insurance agency.

Before becoming a state legislator, he served on the Brockton School Committee and the City Council. He also has been active in a wide range of community organizations.

Sen. Brady can be contacted at 617-722-1200 or Michael.Brady@masenate.gov.



Who's Who on the Education and Higher Education Committees

The Joint Committees on Education and Higher Education are often the first stop for bills that concern nonprofit schools, colleges and universities. The following lists include the leadership and membership of these committees:

Joint Committee on Higher Education

Member contact information:

Senate 617-722-1485

House 617-722-2013

Rep. John Scibak – House Chair
Sen. Michael Moore – Senate Chair
Rep. Sean Garballey – House Vice Chair
Sen. Eileen Donoghue – Senate Vice Chair

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Rep. Thomas Petrolati
Rep. Denise Provost
Rep. Aaron Vega
Rep. Rady Mom
Rep. Stephan Hay
Rep. Solomon Goldstein-Rose
Rep. Natalie Higgins
Sen. Adams Hinds
Sen. Eric Lesser
Sen. O'Connor Ives
Rep. Susannah Whippis – Ranking House Minority Member
Rep. Timothy Whelan
Sen. Richard Ross

Joint Committee on Education

Contact information:

Senate 617-722-1673

House 617-722-2070

Rep. Alice Hanlon Peisch – House Chair
Sen. Sonia Chang-Diaz – Senate Chair
Rep. Chris Walsh – House Vice Chair
Sen. Patricia Jehlen – Senate Vice Chair

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Rep. John Rogers
Rep. William "Smitty" Pignatelli
Rep. James Cantwell
Rep. Diana DiZoglio
Rep. Paul Tucker
Rep. Chynah Tyler
Rep. Bud Williams
Sen. Jason Lewis
Sen. Barbara L'Italien
Sen. Michael Barrett
Rep. Kimberly Ferguson – Ranking House Minority Member
Rep. James Kelcourse
Sen. Patrick O'Connor

Who's Who on the Revenue Committee

The Joint Committee on Revenue is an important clearing house for many of the bills under consideration on Beacon Hill that affect nonprofit schools, colleges and universities.

Officially, the committee's duties include all matters concerning federal financial assistance, state fees, the raising of revenue for the commonwealth by taxation, certain matters relating to local property taxes and other matters that may be referred to it.

Leadership

Rep. Jay Kaufman – House Chair
Sen. Michael Brady – Senate Chair
Rep. Linda Dean Campbell – House Vice Chair
Sen. Cynthia Creem – Senate Vice Chair

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Rep. Colleen Garry
Rep. Brian Ashe
Rep. James Dwyer
Rep. Alan Silvia
Rep. Daniel Hunt
Rep. Brendan Crighton
Rep. Brian Murray
Sen. Kathleen O'Connor Ives
Sen. Michael Rodrigues
Sen. Joseph Boncore
Rep. Shawn Dooley – Ranking House Minority Member
Rep. Peter Durant
Sen. Ryan Fattman

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