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Need help from the state? Check out your legislators on the delegation website

Thu May 29, 2008, 11:51 AM EDT

Somerville -

The following is a press release from Beacon Hill.

Somerville's state legislative delegation today announced the launch of a web site to provide information and services to the Somerville community. The web site, <http://www.somervilledelegation.com>, contains information regarding the delegation's accomplishments and activities on Beacon Hill, state and local resources for constituent services, and contact information for each member of the delegation.

The web site is the product of a joint effort among all of the Senators and Representatives with part of Somerville in their districts.

"I am extremely proud of this web site," said Representative Carl Sciortino, whose district includes West Somerville, Ten Hills, and parts of Winter Hill. "We strive to provide the best service to our constituents, and this first-of-its-kind web site will give residents another tool to communicate with their elected officials."

To provide Somerville residents with easy access to state services, the resources section of the site includes information for those seeking assistance with elder services, healthcare, housing, and many other state and local programs. The web site will be updated with additional resources for constituents as they become available.

"I am very pleased that we have a new way to be in touch with our constituents," Senator Pat Jehlen said. "Communicating with my constituents is one of the most satisfying parts of my job," Sen. Jehlen

continued. "I am especially grateful to Rep. Sciortino for taking the lead on this and building such a great interactive tool that allows the entire Somerville delegation to keep in touch with our community."

Legislative and budget accomplishments are also detailed on the site, including local aid, funding for local programs, and legislation that will benefit Somerville residents.

"We're always looking for better ways to provide information, and to be in contact with constituents," said Representative Denise Provost. "This web site will make great strides toward both goals."

The web site includes maps of the House and Senate districts within Somerville to assist residents in determining their own legislators. It also links to a web site provided by the Secretary of the Commonwealth where residents may input their address to find a list of all of their state and federal elected officials.

To encourage direct communication with the delegation, the web site includes an easy-to-use web form to email individual legislators. It also lists phone numbers and email addresses for each member of the delegation.

"I encourage the citizens of Somerville to utilize this tool," said Representative Tim Toomey. "The web site provides a means for residents of the city to stay connected to their legislative delegation and to stay informed about the essential city, state and local resources that are available to them."

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