

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, February 9, 2012 Contact: Michael Givens, 617-595-6879, mike.givens@1199.org 1199SEIU United Healthcare Workers East

## Members of the largest union on Cape Cod and South Coast endorse Bill Keating for Congress

Healthcare workers on Cape Cod feel Keating is the best choice to represent working families and fight for quality, affordable healthcare

Members of 1199SEIU, the largest healthcare workers union on Cape Cod and the South Coast have endorsed incumbent Bill Keating to represent the 9<sup>th</sup> District of Massachusetts in the U.S. Congress. 1199SEIU members work in hospitals, nursing homes, and home care programs throughout the 9<sup>th</sup> District and across the Commonwealth.

Throughout his career, Congressman Keating has maintained a consistent record of fighting for the rights of working people, and has been a strong advocate for working families and labor. The members of 1199SEIU on Cape Cod and the South Coast are confident that he will continue to be a clear and consistent voice for his constituents in the 9<sup>th</sup> district. 1199SEIU members know that Congressman Keating shares their values regarding the importance of quality, affordable health care, and that he will be a strong advocate for both patients and caregivers.

"Bill Keating looks beyond the partisan bickering that typifies the current political landscape and focuses on what matters most: the people. A firm believer that 'politics as usual' won't move us forward, Congressman Keating is a man of action. He is exactly what working families need in Massachusetts," said 1199SEIU Executive Vice President Veronica Turner.

The 1199SEIU Massachusetts Executive Board, comprised of 1199SEIU members and 1199SEIU leadership, voted to endorse Congressman Keating based on his exemplary performance this past year in his district. He has created 10,000 new jobs in Massachusetts – one of the only members of Congress to achieve this goal; sponsored the AGREE Act, a bipartisan bill that encourages economic growth and gives tax breaks to small businesses; fought back against attacks on Social Security and Medicare and was a leading voice in holding Big Oil accountable for the exorbitant subsidies they receive.

"Congressman Keating is the real deal. From his first day in office, he has been a vocal supporter of our local hospitals, fighting for us every day in Washington and bringing home critical funds to make necessary improvements. As health care workers, we are on the frontlines every day in our hospitals, in our consumers' homes, and in nursing homes and we know that Bill Keating is a man who will fight alongside of us for quality, affordable health care," said Jerry Fishbein, 1199SEIU vice president for Cape Cod and the South Coast.

"Bill Keating is the prime candidate for what we want to do here. He will be a strong advocate for healthcare reform and creating new jobs. He's the right candidate for our area," said Bernard Bowens, an 1199SEIU member at Cape Cod Hospital in Hyannis.

The more than 46,000 union members of 1199SEIU are proud to stand behind Congressman Keating as he campaigns to represent the 9<sup>th</sup> district and continue fighting for working families.

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