

## Madalyn Letellier

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**From:** Rand Wilson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2024 11:57 AM  
**To:** All City Council; Public Comments  
**Subject:** Support for the CHERISH ACT  
**Attachments:** Support for CHERISH act.docx

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March 14, 2024

By email: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Dear Somerville City Councilors,

The **Higher Ed For All** campaign is dedicated to expanding access to Massachusetts public colleges and universities and to ensuring that learning and working conditions are equitably meeting the needs of all students and workers.

Somerville Stands Together urges the City of Somerville to support the Higher Ed for All resolution and to formally recommend that our state legislators support the **Cherish Act**.

Somerville Stands Together supports this vision for high-quality public higher education because it includes:

- recruiting and retaining high-quality faculty and staff,
- providing debt-free public higher education,
- increased support for students, and
- investing in green, healthy, and safe buildings.

Massachusetts' public colleges and universities are anchor institutions that are a significant part of our state's regional economies and are essential to drive economic growth.

We can fund this vision through the use of Fair Share Amendment funds which is earmarked for funding transportation and public education— including public higher education.

[Somerville Strands Together](#) is a community-based coalition uniting 25 local organizations for affordable housing, workers' rights and a city that works for all of us.

Please don't hesitate to contact us for more information. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Rand Wilson

[REDACTED]  
[Somerville Strands Together](#)  
[REDACTED]

cc: Somerville Strands Together member organizations



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