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**Governor**  
**Deval Patrick**


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## GOVERNOR PATRICK DISCUSSES STRATEGY TO INVEST IN INFRASTRUCTURE, HELP SMALL BUSINESS AND GROW JOBS ON THE SOUTH SHORE



*Governor Patrick discusses the Administration's investments in the South Shore with the South Shore Chamber of Commerce. (Photo: Eric Haynes / Governor's Office) View additional [photos](#).*

RANDOLPH – Thursday, April 12, 2012 – Governor Deval Patrick today addressed the South Shore Chamber of Commerce, discussing the Patrick-Murray Administration's efforts to invest in infrastructure, reduce regulations for small businesses and grow jobs on the South Shore and across Massachusetts.

"Because of our partnership with businesses across the region, Massachusetts is creating jobs and recovering from the recession faster and stronger than most states," said Governor Patrick. "Through our investments in education, innovation and infrastructure, we are creating new opportunities for businesses and workers on the South Shore."

**Investing in Infrastructure:**

The Patrick-Murray Administration has worked together with leaders in the region on a variety of economic development projects, including redevelopment of the former South Weymouth Naval Air Station to fund the critical East-West Parkway, which is expected to be complete by the end of this year.

The Administration has also worked to improve Route 18 in Hingham, which has spawned construction of AW Perry's new medical office building for South Shore Hospital – creating 90 full-time jobs to date. Just last month, the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) broke ground on a project to expand Route 139 in Marshfield and leverage 900 new jobs at Commerce Park. MassDOT expects to begin construction next year on the Fore River Bridge replacement.

President Obama's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act has also enabled the Administration to fund many South Shore investments, including \$7 million in stimulus funds for downtown revitalization in Quincy and \$8.8 million for the Plymouth school system.

Helping Small Businesses:

The South Shore Chamber has been a proponent of Governor Patrick's regulatory reform efforts, announced in March as a plan to make doing business in Massachusetts easier while maintaining consumer protection and public safety. The Administration-wide review of regulations – particularly those at least 12 years old – will include a look at 1,000 sets of regulations and is expected to lead to at least 250 regulations being amended or repealed. Already, nearly 150 changes have been identified by agencies.

Prior to the Governor's address, chamber members met with Secretary of Housing and Economic Development Greg Bialecki and Assistant Secretary for Economic Development April Anderson Lamoureux, who was recently appointed regulatory ombudsman by Governor Patrick, to discuss regulatory reform efforts. The Patrick-Murray Administration is reaching out to businesses and organizations like the South Shore Chamber to identify regulations most in need of change in order to effectively help businesses.

"Business leaders will be impressed to see how serious the Administration is in reducing burdens and costs on businesses," said Peter Forman, president of the South Shore Chamber. "To be effective, this has to be a long-term commitment that involves government and business looking at future regulations as well as existing regulations. The South Shore Chamber of Commerce is pleased to partner with Governor Patrick and his Administration on this important effort."

Growing Jobs:

Thanks to the Patrick-Murray Administration's growth strategy of investing in education, innovation and infrastructure -- Massachusetts unemployment is well below the national average. Preliminary reports show that Massachusetts added another 23,000 jobs in the first two months of this year.

The Philadelphia Fed and a number of other sources report that Massachusetts has emerged from the recession faster than most other states, and Massachusetts ranks first in the nation for new growth economy and in technology and science. CNBC ranks Massachusetts as the sixth best state for business in the nation, up from the bottom third a few years ago.

Under the Patrick-Murray Administration, Massachusetts has eliminated the decades-old structural deficit in the state government and the state's bond rating is at its highest levels in the history of the Commonwealth.

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