

MICHAEL S. DUKAKIS
GOVERNOR

100 DEC -6 11 9 37
CAMBRIDGE MA.

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

STATE HOUSE • BOSTON 02133

December 2, 1990

Mr. Joseph Connarton
Clerk
Office Of The City Clerk
Cambridge, MA 02139

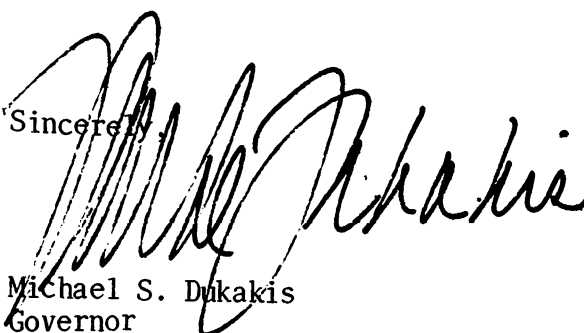
Dear Mr. Connarton:

Thank you for your letter expressing your outrage at the possible closing of the Chelsea and Holyoke Soldiers Homes. I understand--and I share--your outrage. As no less an authority than our first President once said, "The willingness with which our young people are likely to serve in any war, no matter how justified, shall be directly proportional to how they perceive veterans of earlier wars were treated and appreciated by the nation."

As you know, many budget items are fixed, and the areas where cuts can be made are limited. Unfortunately, the programs that can legally be eliminated or reduced are all too often those that serve the most vulnerable of our citizens, and the result is a shameful failure to honor commitments that we have made.

I am doing my very best to find the funds to keep the homes open, and I am hopeful that when the Legislature returns the members will be willing to reduce the budgets of all the Constitutional Officers and the judiciary. If this happens, I assure you that my priority will be to retain necessary services for those who stood ready to serve their country in time of peril or of peace.

Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

Michael S. Dukakis
Governor

MSD/alm-f

8.11 S-1221

Comm. from Governor Michael S. Dukakis
relative to the resolutions adopted by
the City Council in opposition to the
closing of the Chesea and Holyoke Soldiers
Homes.

In City Council,

December 10, 1990

Placed on file