

**MASSACHUSETTS WATER WORKS ASSOCIATION
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Mass Water Works Association honors Eldridge and Dykema for their leadership on water infrastructure

ACTON, MA— Massachusetts Water Works Association (MWWA) has selected state Senator Jamie Eldridge (D-Acton) and state Representative Carolyn Dykema (D-Holliston) to each receive the 2012 Legislator of the Year award. The award is given annually to a legislator who has supported the water works community and contributed to protecting public health and providing a safe and sufficient supply of drinking water for the residents of Massachusetts. Senator Eldridge and Representative Dykema are being honored for their leadership as co-chairs of the Water Infrastructure Finance Commission. The Commission was charged with analyzing the Commonwealth's water infrastructure funding needs and developing recommendations for financing these needs going forward. The Commission's report was released in February and provides many approaches to addressing the challenges; the report can be read in its entirety at www.senatoreldridge.com/legislation/wifc.

"We are pleased to honor Senator Eldridge and Representative Dykema for their extraordinary leadership and for their commitment to raising awareness about the importance of investing in our public drinking water systems," said Andrew L. Reid, MWWA President.

"I am very pleased to receive the 2012 MWWA Legislator of the Year award and am honored to share this award with Representative Dykema," said Senator Eldridge. "The Water Infrastructure Finance Commission report provides a roadmap of the state's water infrastructure needs, and how government can better serve what every community, and indeed every human being needs – access to clean water that is affordable. I commend MWWA's active role on the commission and its work to ensure every community has a clean water supply."

"Clean, affordable water is vital for our families. While often overlooked, investment in infrastructure is critical to protecting the public health and growing jobs in industries ranging from agriculture to biotech in our communities," said Representative Dykema. "I'm honored to receive this award with Senator Eldridge and look forward to continuing our work with the MWWA to ensure the sustainability of Massachusetts' precious water supply."

MWWA is a membership organization dedicated to the advancement of the drinking water profession. Through education and advocacy, MWWA is committed to protecting public health and promoting a safe and sufficient supply of drinking water to Massachusetts consumers.