

I wanted to take this opportunity to update the public on events that have transpired relevant to the Irving A. Glavin Regional Center in Shrewsbury, which the Patrick Administration is attempting to close. I have worked tirelessly alongside family members, guardians, advocates, and other officials from the area to prevent the closure, and chart a course of action that truly represents what is in the best interest of Glavin residents.

In an attempt to prevent the closure of these facilities, myself and other legislators took action during the debate over the FY 2010 budget, inserting language requiring a study to be conducted by the Executive Office for Administration and Finance before three of these centers, including Glavin, can be closed. This study is required to analyze the costs, benefits, and consequences of the administration's facilities closure plan; it must be completed by July 1, 2010. This study will not prevent the closure of any facility, though it will result in the administration having to do a fiscal analysis before a closure can be implemented.

Glavin stands out amongst the Commonwealth's developmental centers in numerous regards, including the unmatched quality of care provided by its staff. Most importantly, "community integration" is already very much a component of life at Glavin. People in Shrewsbury not only interact with Glavin residents, but embrace them wholeheartedly. Glavin is a welcomed part of the Shrewsbury community, and I intend to fight to keep it that way.

Michael O. Moore, State Senator
Second Worcester District