



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

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BOSTON - The Massachusetts State Senate this afternoon unanimously adopted Senator Joan M. Menard's (D-Fall River) budget amendment that would prohibit future LNG facilities from being sited within one mile of any school, hospital, or nursing home (see attached press release from Monday). "The fact that the vote was unanimous sends a strong message" said Senator Menard following the amendment's adoption. "From the Berkshires to Cape Cod, we stand together as a body in our opposition to the unsafe siting of these facilities."

The Senate's FY 2008 budget proposal, expected to gain passage later this week, will move into a joint Senate/House Conference Committee in the coming weeks where 3 members from each branch will iron out the differences between the House and Senate budget to produce one spending bill. Governor Patrick will then have 10 days to review it before either signing it into law, or sending back to the Legislature.