



VII. Housing and Homelessness

- A. Baker's policy **requires families, including ones with children, to spend a night in an inappropriate and even dangerous location**, such as in a car or under a bridge, **before they are eligible for a homeless shelter. Funding for homelessness assistance has declined \$55 million (21%) under Baker in the last 2 years.** (MA Budget and Policy Center)

- B. Baker announced a **plan to build 135,000 homes over the next 8 years with \$10 million annually in grants** to cities and towns and a tweak to local rules for making zoning changes. (Globe 12/12/17) That's **less than \$600 per home**. Here again, **Governor Baker spends a little money and, to great fanfare, claims he's made a significant impact on much bigger problem.**

- C. Baker **froze funding for the only homeless shelter in Amherst for two consecutive years**, thereby precluding essential services in cold weather. He did not release funds last year, and only released funds this year after potentially life-threatening situations were exposed by the media.

- D. Baker has **cut subsidies for affordable housing.**