

# Healey’s message to migrants: No room left

Warning about state’s capacity reflects budgetary and political pressures

## Loss of airport sanctuary brings feelings of despair

By Danny McDonald,  
Samantha J. Gross,  
and Stephanie Ebbert

GLOBE STAFF

At Logan Airport’s Terminal E Tuesday night, dozens of migrants settling in for the night attempted to get comfortable. They munched on corn on the cob, a couple of kids clutched slices of pizza, and another had a granola bar. A mother breast-fed her child. Some people scrolled through their phones, others tried to catch some shut-eye underneath the harsh lights.

Soon, they will have to leave this temporary home. Governor

Maura Healey’s administration announced last Friday that, as of July 9, homeless and migrant families will no longer be allowed to sleep at Logan. And some of the 40 or so people who were sheltering there Tuesday night, uncomfortable but at least in a safe, clean environment, reacted to that deadline with frustration and despair.

“We don’t have anywhere to go,” said Julienne Louissaint, 35, sitting atop an air mattress not far from the international arrivals gate.

For months, Terminal E has

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ERIN CLARK/GLOBE STAFF

Sherlie Elisse held her baby, Elisonn Saint, as they settled down for the night at Logan Airport earlier this week.

By Samantha J. Gross

GLOBE STAFF

Last Friday afternoon, 70 homeless shelter residents, newly arrived migrants and Massachusetts residents, gathered at Hildebrand Family Self-Help’s Central Square office in Cambridge for a question-and-answer session.

They looked stressed. So did Hildebrand’s staff as they attempted to address the uncertainties created by the state’s new nine-month limit on emergency shelter stays, and the reality that some of the families would soon be given 90 days to vacate the state-funded shelter.

The new shelter limit means that there may be “some families who may not be in long-term

stable housing, said Shiela Moore, Hildebrand’s executive director. “It really cuts against our mission.”

But the notices are part of Governor Maura Healey’s effort to deliver a stern warning to migrants arriving in the United States: Don’t come to Massachusetts. We’re full.

The Healey administration has taken numerous steps to broadcast that “no vacancy” message.

On the same day as the Hildebrand session, the governor announced the state is barring homeless and migrant families from sleeping at Logan Airport starting July 9. Days later, Healey’s administration announced

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# Biden aware of stakes, allies say

Appearances over weekend deemed crucial

By Katie Rogers

NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — President Biden has told key allies that he knows the coming days are crucial and understands that he may not be able to salvage his candidacy if he cannot convince voters that he is up to the job after a disastrous debate performance last week.

According to two allies who have spoken with him, Biden has emphasized that he is still deeply committed to the fight for reelection but understands that his viability as a candidate is on the line.

The president sought to project confidence Wednesday in a call with his campaign staff, even as White House officials were trying to calm nerves among the ranks inside the Biden administration.

“No one’s pushing me out,” Biden said in the call. “I’m not leaving.”

Vice President Kamala Harris was also on the line.

“We will not back down. We will follow our president’s lead,” she said. “We will fight, and we will win.”

Still, Biden’s allies said that the president had privately ac-

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JOHN TLUMACKI/GLOBE STAFF



MATTHEW J. LEE/GLOBE STAFF



DAVID L. RYAN/GLOBE STAFF

## BLOOMIN’ GROUP

It’s not your imagination — the hydrangeas are amazing this year, thanks to a mild winter. And it’s everywhere, not just on the Cape. Clockwise from above, an impressive array in Milton, a riot of color in Chatham, and a delicate bloom in Quincy. **B1.**

# State pushes for concessions from 8 hospitals’ landlords

By Robert Weisman

GLOBE STAFF

As a July 15 deadline looms for bids to buy Steward Health Care’s eight Massachusetts hospitals out of bankruptcy, months of quiet talks have intensified into what insiders describe as a high-stakes game of chicken between the Healey administration and the hospitals’ landlords.

State officials and their allies on Capitol Hill are pressing Medical Properties Trust and Macquarie Infrastructure Partners — which together own the real estate Steward occupies — to either sell the properties or accept lower rents on long-term leases that currently oblige the eight hospitals to pay more than \$100 million a year.

The concessions would make buying and running the hospitals more financially feasible for new owners, according to several parties briefed on the talks.

They spoke on the condition of anonymity because they weren’t authorized to discuss private negotiations.

MPT and Macquarie, they said, have so far resisted calls to revamp the leases and may be waiting for a state commitment — which has yet to come — to provide financial backing to new hospital owners. Hanging in the balance are the fate of the hospitals and the shape of the health care market in Eastern Massachusetts.

Senators Elizabeth Warren and Ed Markey weighed in Tuesday with a letter to the property owners backing the state’s position and urging a “long-term reduction in lease payments, early termination of leases, or other concessions to ensure that new operators can be found to keep Steward’s Massachusetts hospitals open and viable.”

Hospital systems pondering

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**Governor Maura Healey’s call for lower rents is backed by Senators Ed Markey and Elizabeth Warren.**

Insurers will pay **135%** of the Medicare reimbursement rate for out-of-network care at urgent care centers in nine Eastern Massachusetts counties

# With ERs overwhelmed, patients will be diverted to urgent cares

By Jason Laughlin

GLOBE STAFF

Faced with crushing numbers of patients at hospitals in Eastern Massachusetts, the state Department of Public Health launched an initiative Wednesday to relieve pressure on overwhelmed emergency departments by diverting patients to urgent care centers.

Through the end of September, the state’s health insurers will cover treatment at urgent care centers even if the facility is outside their coverage network, according to a DPH memo. Urgent care providers, who treat patients with non-life-threatening conditions, also agreed not to bill patients for the remaining balance after insurance reimbursement.

“What the DPH has done is unprecedented,” said Jim Brennan, president of the Massachusetts Urgent Care Association, an industry group. “The Department of Health is preemptively trying to make sure all patients are aware of resources they have above and beyond the

emergency room.”

The move comes amid extraordinary strain on the region’s hospitals, with summer also the busiest time for ERs. Meanwhile, providers are still reeling from pandemic-era workforce shortages and, this year, must also contend with difficulties at Steward Health Care, the largest for-profit hospital system in the country, which operates seven active hospitals in Massachusetts. Steward declared bankruptcy in May and has curtailed some services.

“It’s an already strained emergency department ecosystem in Massachusetts,” said Michael Caljouw, vice president of government and regulatory affairs for Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts, the state’s largest private insurer. “Looking forward, we want to make sure we’re all prepared for continuing care demands during the summertime if and when Steward changes occur.”

Urgent care centers are equipped to

**URGENT CARE, Page A12**

**A land trust nonprofit is pulling back from a years-long plan to redevelop a decrepit pier into a waterfront park in East Boston. **B1.****

**Ballot measures on abortion rights are likely in Arizona and Nebraska, with organizers saying they have the signatures. **A2.****

**Fajitas & ‘Ritas is closing after 35 years, another blow to Downtown Crossing. **D1.****

## Sparklers

**Thursday:** Summer heat. High 83-88. Low 68-73.

**Friday:** A bit more humid. High 83-88. Low 69-74.

**Weather and Comics, D5-6. Obituaries, C11.**

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