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**DEVAL L. PATRICK**  
GOVERNOR

**TIMOTHY P. MURRAY**  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

June 2012

Dear Youth Delegates:

On behalf of the citizens of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, I send warm greetings as you gather for the Stone Soup Leadership Institute's 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Youth Leadership Summit.

This Summit provides you with a unique opportunity to discuss the challenges we face as a global community, share your ideas, and to start working together on possible solutions. With your collective talent and determination, I am certain that you can develop effective action plans for sustainable projects in your own communities and beyond.

Massachusetts has established itself as a leader in energy efficiency, land and water conservation and sustainable development practices. I am confident that through innovative and collaborative programs like this summit, and with promising young leaders like you, we will remain a leader for generations to come.

I hope you will take full advantage of the opportunities afforded you at this summit. I am proud of all of you for taking an active role in the health and sustainability of our environment. You give me great hope for our future.

I want to thank the Stone Soup Leadership Institute and Martha's Vineyard Youth Leadership Initiative for hosting this outstanding event and to congratulate you on the launch of your sister program in Hawaii. Please accept my best wishes for a successful and informative summit.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Deval Patrick". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the beginning and a long tail.