The wonderfully engaged, bright, and energetic students in the “Advocacy for Policy Change” course brought new ideas and new energy to public policymaking.

Grounded in a realistic look at what it takes to advocate for and make significant change in the public arena, they dug into difficult “real world” problems and got to meaningfully interact with the state’s change agents and would-be (or should-be) change agents.

I have no doubt that their probing questions, insights and ideas have made me a better legislator, and will help make for better policy in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in the years ahead.

As a Brandeis University alum, I am particularly gratified to have had the opportunity to contribute to this valuable new course, which promises to continue the Brandeis tradition of active engagement with the pressing issues of the time.

Representative Kaufman (center) with the students of “Advocacy for Policy Change” at the Massachusetts State House, February 15, 2011.