



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
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**ASSISTANT MAJORITY WHIP**

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Irish Echo Newspaper  
11 Hanover Square  
New York, NY 10005

Dear Editor:

It was a pleasure to take part in the "*Gateways to Tomorrow Conference*" held in Boston on October 8-9 and sponsored by the Irish Echo.

For the first time in my memory, I was hearing business and political leaders from the U.S. and Ireland talking about ways to increase employment on both sides. As one of the speakers noted, a bridge built strong benefits the people on both sides.

While implementation of the Good Friday Agreement is a work in progress, it was encouraging to hear community and business leaders from both countries talk about education expansion and job creation as vital elements in the continued relationship between our countries.

The conference did not solve all of the problems facing our countries in these difficult economic times but it will serve as a beacon pointing the way forward as the relationship between our counties evolve and move forward.

I salute the Irish Echo for organizing the conference and I am excited about the progress that can be achieved before next year's follow up conference.

Sincerely,

Sen. Steven A. Tolman

