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**Amy Burke Appointed Executive Director of
Massachusetts Government Appointments Project**

Will work to bring more women into senior-level policy and management
positions in state government

Boston, MA -- Amy Burke of Boxborough has been named by the Massachusetts Government Appointments Project (MassGAP 2010) as its new Executive Director. Ms. Burke, a political reformer, was most recently State Representative Jen Benson's campaign manager for her successful re-election bid.

The MassGAP initiative, formed in 2002, is a coalition comprising nearly 60 women's groups statewide, whose purpose is to increase the number of women in senior-level appointed positions in order to achieve a fair representation of women in state government.

"It's an honor for me to have the opportunity to lead this effort of building a stronger, more sustainable pipeline for women who are interested in high-level positions in state government," said Ms. Burke. "I am deeply committed to the cause of promoting women of talent to key positions at every level and MassGAP represents an effective and efficient way in which to do this."

Mary Fifield, Chair of MassGAP noted, "Amy exemplifies the drive, passion, and skills we need in this important position. She understands that getting women appointed to key positions is much more than a simple symbol of support; the appointments made now are guideposts for in the future. We are confident that Amy will be able to build bridges and expand the reach of the MassGAP initiative to ensure that more women and more diverse women are considered for high level positions."

Burke's responsibilities will include helping to identify the best strategic approach to accomplishing the mission of MassGAP in 2010, in large part by soliciting and recruiting additional, highly diverse women's organizations to join MassGAP, and communicating and working with MassGAP's Executive and Steering Committees. She will also work closely with the several MassGAP task forces to vet potential candidates for open state-government positions.

Priti Rao, Executive Director of the MWPC, the Lead Sponsor of MassGAP, said, "We were pleased to have a very competitive and inclusive field of candidates, each of whom possessed an array of unique skills. Amy's unwavering commitment to MassGAP's mission of bringing more diverse women to the decision and policy-making table, along with her proven ability to work successfully with people from different political backgrounds are core to our vision of this position. We look forward to having Amy work to create an effort that remains active--not just during periods of government transitions, but over the long term."

About MassGAP

The Massachusetts Government Appointments Project (MassGAP) was founded in 2002 as a bi-partisan coalition of women's groups whose purpose is to increase the number of women appointed by the new governor to senior-level cabinet positions, agency heads and selected authorities and commissions in the Commonwealth. The Massachusetts Women's Political Caucus (MWPC) is the Lead Sponsor of this coalition.



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