



**Mary Chaffee, PhD, JD, RN, FAAN**  
**Brewster Delegate and Deputy Speaker**  
**Barnstable County Assembly of Delegates**

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Mary Chaffee has served as Brewster's Delegate to the Barnstable County Assembly of Delegates since 2017. She was elected by the Assembly to serve as its Deputy Speaker in 2020.

Deputy Speaker Chaffee also serves on the Brewster Select Board and served for seven years on Brewster's Board of Health.

Deputy Speaker Chaffee was a U.S. Navy Nurse for 26 years, where she was assigned to a variety of clinical, policy, and leadership roles including as Director of the Navy Medicine Office of Homeland Security and as a policy analyst in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs. She was promoted to the rank of Captain.

Deputy Speaker Chaffee was co-editor of the book *Policy and Politics in Nursing and Health Care*, has written dozens of publications on nursing, health care, and disaster preparedness and was managing editor of the journal *Policy, Politics & Nursing Practice*. Her writing on science and the environment has been published in *E/The Environmental Magazine*, the *Cape Cod Times*, the *Cape Codder*, the *New Bedford Standard-Times*, and *Cape Cod* magazine.

A graduate of the University of Massachusetts Amherst, Deputy Speaker Chaffee completed bachelor's degrees in nursing and public health there and an internship at the Welsh National School of Medicine in Cardiff, Wales. In 1998 she received an MS with a dual major in health policy and nursing administration from the University of Maryland Baltimore and interned in the office of U.S. Senator Daniel Inouye (D-HI). She earned a PhD in nursing from the University of Maryland Baltimore in 2008 where she conducted dissertation research on hospital disaster preparedness.

Deputy Speaker Chaffee received a law degree (magna cum laude) from the University of Massachusetts School of Law–Dartmouth. She completed fieldwork with the Association to Preserve Cape Cod and the Buzzards Bay Coalition, as well as legal studies at Pepperdine University and comparative environmental law at the University of Insubria School of Law in Como, Italy.

Deputy Speaker Chaffee received a Burton Award for Distinguished Legal Scholarship for an article she published as a law student (one of only 10 U.S. students to receive the honor). She was inducted into the American Academy of Nursing and was awarded an honorary Doctor of Science by the University of Massachusetts Amherst. She received the Legion of Merit, and other military awards, and led a Navy program recognized as a Harvard University/Kennedy School of Government "Innovations in American Government" awards program finalist in homeland security.

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