



PROGRESSIVE MASSACHUSETTS
2026 CONGRESSIONAL
ENDORSEMENT QUESTIONNAIRE

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I. About You

1. Why are you running for office? And what will be your top 3 priority pieces of legislation if elected?

I'm running for Congress because politics as usual has failed. We have government policies driven by greed and elitism, creating a government by the rich and for the rich. As a working person, I want a system that works for ordinary people.

We're facing a war on two fronts. First, Trump wants to become a dictator and the Republican Party is helping him do it. Second, life has become unaffordable as shareholder capitalism gutted the American middle class. As a software engineer, I know the rise of generative AI could make both problems worse. CEOs are giddy at the idea of firing their workers, even if there will be no one left to buy their products.

It does not have to be this way. We could use the increasing productivity to raise pay. We could reduce working hours, or invest in infrastructure. We could choose to celebrate truth and mark fiction as fiction.

But we could also protect our privacy online. Congress has had thirty years and they still haven't done that either.

I want to use my decades of experience to effectively regulate big tech companies and make government software work well. But first, we have to address the dictator in the White House. If we ignore this corruption, corruption will become normal. If we let this Supreme Court play Calvin Ball, there isn't going to be a rule of law left to defend. If we let masked agents murder our neighbors in the streets, we will never be safe.

Before we get America good things, before we establish Medicare For All and build affordable housing, we must solve this crisis. We need to get ICE off our streets and prosecute every member who broke the law. We must restore a legitimate, non-partisan Supreme Court. We need an Attorney General that isn't part of the conspiracy.

We aren't going to get those things by following the same etiquette that got us into this mess. I am prepared to be creative, to draw from my experience as an activist and organizer, and find solutions that work. I want to go to Congress because oversight is supposed to be the job of Congress, and I want

to actually do its job.

A movement that saves our democracy will also be capable of building a better world. We can save our country by building that movement.

2. **What prepares you to serve in this capacity?**

As someone who has relied on food stamps, Free Care and public transportation, I know that politics isn't a sport or a game. I have seen how corporations and the richest people warp politics to serve their pocketbooks. I know that the only way to fight back is "together".

I bring a breadth of experience: as a software engineer, in local politics, in activist movements, as a union organizer, as a board member, and as the founder of a fully-volunteer-run community-led art-sports program. I have built teams, including managing specialists doing work that is similar to constituent services. I know how important it is to have the everyday things work well, and fix them when they don't. I have shepherded far-reaching changes through deeply dysfunctional organizations, and I have successfully collaborated with folks of very different beliefs and backgrounds.

Right now, Congress is relying on CEOs, lobbyists and fellows hired by big tech to explain how software works. I look forward to providing effective oversight of how our government regulates, buys, builds and uses software. I can make sense of terrible code, which will let me find out what DOGE has done with our data. And I can share my first-hand experiences with my fellow law makers, potentially even pair programming with them the way I have with lawyers and business folks in my workplace.

My software career has given me the opportunity to participate in many different fields. I saw our finance system from the inside as employee #8 when we were starting the Long Term Stock Exchange. I got to know electoral work by writing software for a presidential campaign. I learned how AI works writing code for self-driving cars. I know how our healthcare system works because I built some of the software behind it. I was lucky enough to collaborate with experts in each of those fields, and I learned to take their expertise and turn it into things that make people's lives easier.

I also know that our systems are the set of rules we have agreed on, and those can always be changed. I am practiced at growing systems that help people build useful things. I want to bring that same outcome-focused philosophy to

Congress, and help our government work for all of us.

3. **What do you view as the biggest barriers to progressive policy on the federal level?**

There are organized forces that only care about short-term profits and maximum extraction, and they have recently built an alliance with fascists. Those people don't see themselves as a part of the same society as the rest of us. Too often, institutional elites believe they are hearing "both sides" while actually living in a right-wing bubble.

The deck is stacked against us. Growing income inequality has concentrated power and journalism in the hands of a few unaccountable billionaires. The Senate is wildly undemocratic: Republicans can break a filibuster representing only half of America, but Democrats would have to represent more than 80% of us. But I believe those are forces we can overcome, if we are willing to stand up and organize.

Instead, establishment centrist Democrats are scared of backlash. Even a hint of disapproval shuts progress down. Instead of organizing popular movements behind our popular policies, many politicians pre-emptively negotiate with corporate lobbyists, watering progressive policies down until they are no longer popular or progressive. We end up finding ways to help as few people as possible, instead of building the power to help everyone.

We are so afraid of failing, we give up before we start.

And then there is the problem of politics-as-a-sport, where the goal becomes scoring points and winning elections. When the goal is just "be a politician", people end up saying whatever they think will get them elected. Career politicians will say one thing to voters and something totally different to donors, and then see their responsibility as being to the donors first. My establishment-backed opponents haven't even put political positions up on their websites.

I'm coming from an already-successful career in a highly-skilled trade. I didn't have to play along with the myth of centrism-for-centrism's-sake to get where I am. I know that the problem isn't that we've done too much: it is that we haven't attempted enough.

When progressive districts like the Massachusetts 6th elect actually-progressive representation, it pops the right-wing bubble billionaires have built. Working with the pioneers in the Progressive Caucus, I look forward to bringing new ideas and creative solutions to America.

4. Do you consider yourself progressive, and if so, how would you define “progressive”?

I am absolutely a progressive: I care about making things better for actual people, and building a society that is more kind, fair, competent and peaceful. “Progressive” is an umbrella for all of us who want to fix the variety of ways our system is bullshit right now. That broad coalition lets people organize locally to build global change.

One place I have lived this out is in my Unitarian-Universalist faith. I particularly love singing in the choir because of how literal the experience is. As singers, we are all a part of something bigger than ourselves. Together, we make music no one person could make alone. We follow the conductor not because we are afraid of punishment, but because we trust them and have chosen them to lead. No one person’s voice is the “best” way to sing. Instead of having a Right Answer, we figure out together how this particular group is going to sing a particular song today.

At its best, politics can be the same.

Progress comes from a pragmatic, defiant optimism that things can improve. Together, we practice witnessing the ways things suck without getting overwhelmed. Together, we address moral injuries. Together, we become the Helpers.

Together, we make tomorrow better than today.

5. Whom do you view as a role model for how you would operate in the office you are running for?

Representative Pramila Jayapal. In addition to her bravery, policy leadership and consistent advocacy, I admire her Resistance Lab project. She is building more than a political profile: she is building capacity

II. Shared Leadership

1. **If elected, how will you remain accountable to the communities and organizations that supported your campaign?**

True accountability is only possible in the context of a relationship, and so my priority will be maintaining those relationships. I will make sure we have the bandwidth to collaborate.

Using a technique from my day job, I plan to build working groups that focus on specific goals. I will also continue organizing in the Sixth District for progressive power, championing local policy initiatives and supporting candidates up and down the ballot. That ongoing organizing will give us the chance to get feedback & build trust while we are doing useful work together.

2. **What specific mechanisms will you use to maintain transparency with constituents (e.g., town halls, public votes explanations, advisory councils)?**

I will host town halls, which I consider the bare minimum. I also look forward to facilitating roundtable discussions that can encourage broader participation, and working with local organizers to gather honest feedback from more than just the loudest voices.

I will keep making TikToks and using social media to put information out in a variety of formats, and as new platforms emerge I commit to experimenting with them as well. I will maintain a website with my current priorities, how I am working on them, and how people who care about those priorities can get involved. My goal will be to channel energy into community action, and build the broad movement that is necessary for progressive change.

3. **Which communities do you believe will have the least access to you once you are in office, and what steps will you take to change that?**

Anyone who can afford a lobbyist is given privileged access in Washington, and anyone who can't is too often shit out of luck. One of the reasons I am running is to make sure there is at least one working software developer in the room. I will do proactive outreach in both my field and others, ensuring we hear from the people who will be affected by policy as well as the people who will profit from it.

I have also spent decades cultivating my cynicism and ability to read between the lines. When building software products, we don't build whatever users ask for. Instead, we ask follow up questions like, "what would that button let you do?" or "what are you afraid might happen?", so we can address the underlying needs. I will ensure my staff practice similar critical thinking, instead of taking lobbying at face value or brushing off input that is less academic-sounding. We will consistently ask, "who have we not heard from?" and "what do we need to learn?"

4. **How will you ensure that people most impacted by federal policy, particularly communities of color, immigrants, disabled people, LGBTQ+ people, and low-income communities, have real influence over your legislative priorities, not just symbolic inclusion?**

Being a queer, trans, disabled person with friends and family across those intersecting affinities will help. I have long-standing friendships with people I trust to yell at me if I lose track of who I'm going to Washington to serve.

I will draw on my past management experience to create an office where folks with politically-underrepresented experiences can thrive. Legislation about us should be built with us in the room, and people should have access to constituent services in their native languages, provided by members of their culture. I look forward to collaborating to provide the best possible service.

Professionally, I help groups of engineers figure out solutions to problems that have seemed impossible. We always start by identifying our goals and values, before we ever start talking about solutions. If our goals are in conflict, we would argue about solutions forever and never come to consensus.

Any law I write will start with an analysis of what the goal is, how we will know if we succeeded, and if we have shown it to the people who will be affected. We will do proactive outreach to answer those questions, which is also a chance to build our coalition.

When we make policy that people can understand, that serves their actual needs, we can also invite them to be part of the movement to get it done.

5. **What does "sharing power" look like in practice in a Congressional office? Please give at least two examples (e.g., staffing, agenda-setting, constituent engagement).**

My experience is that people quickly get discouraged if they try something and get told “no” or, worse, face criticism for trying at all. From my professional work, I have a toolbox of techniques to help communities build momentum instead of resignation.

I will use storytelling and in-real-life events to invite people to participate, and then use a diversity of paths to make it easy to get involved. I plan to experiment with online platforms and hire people with community management experience to facilitate them, finding a balance between openness and responsiveness.

Staff need to feel supported, and also know that someone is aware of their work. I encourage peer collaboration instead of top-down control, but the responsibility still has to fall on leadership if it is going to be safe for staff to try things out. I use tools like “retrospectives” to give teams confidence and improve our processes over time.

I will also ensure everyone in my office has the chance for coaching that isn’t from their boss, even if my staff chooses not to have a union. “Steward” is an incredibly useful role, whether there is a union or not.

III. The Issues

Our questionnaire is based on our [Progressive Platform](#): Shared Prosperity, All Means All/Racial and Social Justice, Good Government and Strong Democracy, and Sustainable Infrastructure and Environmental Protection. Most questions refer to specific pieces of legislation filed in recent years in Congress.

A. An Equitable Tax System

- 1. What does a fair tax system look like to you? Which specific proposals would you advocate for?**

Each dollar is less useful than the dollar before and inequality breaks the economy, so I support a strongly progressive tax system.

We should never tax unearned income less than money someone actually worked for. Treating capital gains as a special case adds a ton of complexity to our tax system for negative social benefit. We also need to fix the loophole where inherited capital gains are never taxed at all, and restore the silver spoon taxes.

Corporations shouldn't get to opt out of taxation. I am particularly frustrated that we barely tax capital at all, at an average rate of less than 5%, but if a company employs a person we tax that at more than 20%. That is a big part of why companies are so excited by AI: a less-competent robot can still be more profitable than employing a person. I am proposing a Robot Tax that will charge the same taxes whether work is done by a person or an automated system.

Using tax incentives or accounting tricks to hide government spending is shameful. I believe we should be honest about what we are trying to accomplish, how much it will cost and who will benefit, and then accomplish that in the most efficient way.

2. **Taxing Excessive CEO Pay. Would you support legislation to raise taxes on corporations that pay their executives more than 50 times the wages of their workers?** (Y/N)

YES.

3. **Taxing Extreme Wealth. The top 10 US billionaires saw their collective wealth increase by [\\$698 billion](#) just over the past year.**
- a. **Would you support requiring the ultra-wealthy to pay taxes on wealth gains as they occur, rather than allowing them to indefinitely defer or avoid taxation, by requiring annual taxation of non-tradable assets like stocks, regardless of sale?** (Y/N)

Not quite. Given the easily-manipulated valuations for assets like art and wine, I would prefer to make using an asset as collateral for a loan an event that realizes the gains on that asset, as well as get rid of the loopholes that let capital gains escape taxation all together.

- b. **Would you support imposing a 2% annual tax on the net worth of households and trusts between \$50 million and \$1 billion, along with 1% additional surtax on the net worth of households and trusts above \$1 billion?** (Y/N)

YES.

4. **Corporate Tax Breaks. Would you support repealing the corporate tax breaks in the “Big Ugly Bill”? (Y/N) Are there pre-existing corporate tax breaks that you would also advocate to repeal?**

Largely, yes. It is ridiculous that Tesla contributes nothing back to the country that funded its success, despite paying taxes in other countries like China. Trickle-down economics has been a disaster, and corporations shouldn't get to write their own tax rules.

I would keep the immediate deductions for research & development. The 2022 move to a 5-year schedule hurt American workers and led to significant layoffs. Unlike other investments, R&D is highly cost-sensitive. I would also agree to keep the changes to bonus depreciation if we use it to implement my Robot Tax on capital. But we should return the top corporate tax rate to 35% and restore the limits on interest deductions.

On existing tax breaks, I would like to limit net-loss carrybacks to one year and address the offshoring of profits. These examples demonstrate a huge part of the problem: corporate tax loopholes are often complex, wonky accounting tricks that escape public scrutiny. To fix that, I will have my office make a visualization of how each provision of the tax code affects the taxes we collect, who benefits and by how much, and highlight the loopholes I want to address

B. Jobs That Pay a Living Wage

1. **Minimum Wage. The gap between productivity and wages has grown dramatically since 1973. Moreover, the federal minimum wage remains stuck at \$7.25—what it was in 2009. Would you support legislation to...**
 - a. **Raise the federal minimum wage to \$17 per hour? (Y/N)**
YES.
 - b. **Eliminate all subminimum wages (i.e., for tipped workers, for student workers, and for workers with disabilities)? (Y/N)**
YES.
 - c. **Index the minimum wage to inflation? (Y/N)**
YES.

2. **Living Wages. Although the current federal push is to raise the minimum wage to \$17, this is still far from a living wage. Indeed, according to the MIT Living Wage Calculator, \$17 is [below a living wage in all 50 states](#). What steps would you take to close the gap between the minimum wage and a living wage?**

Making life more affordable will benefit us all.

The largest expense in most people's budgets is housing. We can't continue to have home prices rise at several times the rate of wages. I support repealing the Faircloth amendment and building inclusive affordable housing in places where workers currently have long commutes. In addition to lowering the living wage, this will also improve traffic, address transportation costs (another major expense), and reduce carbon emissions.

I also support universal pre-K and daycare. People shouldn't be forced to give up their careers because of the cost of childcare.

3. **Retirement Security. With the decline of pensions and other defined-benefit retirement plans in the workplace, retirement is becoming more insecure, and seniors are having to work longer just to stay afloat. Would you support legislation to....**

- a. **Raise the cap on earnings that are taxed for Social Security? (Currently, only earnings up to \$176,100 are subject to the payroll tax.) (Y/N)**

YES.

- b. **Increase the benefits provided by Social Security? (Y/N)**

If it is sustainably funded. Short-term benefit increases are a cheap political ploy that come at the expense of working people. My proposed Robot Tax would allow for increased benefits without pulling the ladder up on current workers.

4. **Paid Family and Medical Leave. The US is the only industrial nation without paid family leave, but 13 states and the District of Columbia have established comprehensive, mandatory paid family leave systems at the state level. Would you support passing federal legislation to create a**

nationwide paid family and medical leave system at least as strong as that in MA? (Y/N)

YES.

5. **Union Rights. The Trump administration has waged an all-out assault on labor unions in the US, and this is on top of the [multi-decade fall in unionization rates](#) due to hostile policy and weak enforcement of existing protections. Unions built the middle-class, and stronger unions are essential to achieving a vision of shared prosperity. Do you commit to voting and advocating for the passage of the [Protecting the Right to Organize \(PRO\) Act](#)? (Y/N)**

YES.

6. **Congressional Staff Unionization. If your staff members elected to form a union, would you commit to recognizing and supporting such unionization? (Y/N)**

YES.

7. **Affordability. Better pay and benefits can only go so far in ensuring economic security amidst rising prices. What would be your top priorities in addressing the high cost of living?**

In addition to housing and transportation, I will also prioritize healthcare.

We need to finally establish Medicare For All. It will remove the risk of catastrophic health care costs, increase entrepreneurship and level the playing field for small businesses. While we are working to get a federal program established, we should provide federal funding for any state that establishes universal healthcare. Any state that provides universal care will end up serving people from all over the country, and the entire country should help fund that. We watched Vermont's attempt be derailed by fears of sick people moving to the state. The federal government can easily address that concern.

We can also take pressure off local budgets by finally funding the ADA. Parents shouldn't have to move to get their children necessary services, and towns shouldn't have their budget balloon at random. Right now, we punish towns and cities that follow the law and serve all children.

Funding community colleges and making them free will build our economy and increase our resilience in the face of constantly-changing technologies.

Please use this space to share any other principles or proposals on this issue.

A country that doesn't work for working people doesn't work, period.

As a union organizer, I know that the NLRB often does more to protect companies from workers than workers' rights to organize. We need treble damages and punitive fines not just for union busting and unfair labor practices, but also for wage theft in general. Right now, companies too often come out ahead even when they and their union-busting consultants get caught.

C. Reining in Corporate Power

1. **Antitrust Policy.** The Biden administration ushered in a [paradigm shift](#) in the federal government's approach to antitrust, including strengthened enforcement against corporate monopolies through landmark lawsuits, rulemaking, and a "whole-of-government" competition strategy. The Trump administration has since gutted this approach. Do you support a return to anti-monopoly, pro-competition policies, such as those advocated by former FTC chair Lina Khan? (Y/N)

YES.

2. **Cryptocurrency Regulation.** The rise of the cryptocurrency industry is weakening financial stability and opening new [floodgates of dark money into elections](#). Do you support [Senator Elizabeth Warren's principles for cryptocurrency regulation](#) (i.e., "upholding securities laws for non-crypto assets, ensuring investor protections, maintaining financial stability, requiring anti-money laundering compliance and closing sanctions loopholes, and preventing public officials – like President Trump – from profiting off of crypto tokens")? (Y/N)

YES.

3. **Big Tech.** Would you oppose Big Tech's efforts to preempt states from enforcing laws regulating consumer privacy and artificial intelligence? (Y/N)

YES.

Please use this space to share any other principles or proposals on this issue.

As a software engineer, I am deeply concerned about how generative AI is being created, marketed and used. I believe we should hold companies responsible for what their AIs generate and mandate cryptographic watermarks for AI-generated content. I will platform mathematicians and practitioners in Congressional hearings rather than just CEOs. Congress should clarify the limitations of these technologies and investigate the misleading advertising practices behind the current bubble.

D. Quality, Affordable Health Care

1. **Medicare for All. Would you support the creation of a single payer/“Medicare for All” health insurance system in the country that would guarantee health care as a right? (Y/N)**

YES.

2. **Expanding Medicare. Would you support expanding Medicare to cover comprehensive dental, vision, and hearing care? (Y/N)**

YES.

3. **Medicare Advantage. Medicare Advantage overbills the federal government by [\\$140 billion a year](#). Would you support legislation to require Medicare Advantage companies to charge the government at a rate per beneficiary equal to or less than traditional Medicare in order to reduce unnecessary and wasteful spending? (Y/N)**

YES.

4. **Prescription Drug Prices. Prescription drug prices in the US are consistently higher than in other countries. Would you support...

 - a. **Allowing patients, pharmacists, and wholesalers to buy low-cost prescription drugs from Canada and other industrialized countries? (Y/N)****

YES.

- b. **Allowing the federal government to manufacture lower-cost generic versions of prescription drugs when the market does not offer them?** (Y/N)

YES.

5. **Reproductive Rights**. Would you support repealing the Hyde Amendment, which bars the use of federal funds to pay for abortion in most cases? (Y/N)

YES.

6. **Gender-Affirming Health Care**. Would you support legislation to train more providers in gender-affirming care, improve medical education curricula for gender affirming care, and expand capacity of Community Health Centers to provide this care? (Y/N)

YES.

7. **Combating False Advertising**. Would you support legislation to direct the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to prescribe rules prohibiting disinformation in the advertising of abortion services and give the Federal Trade Commission authority to enforce these rules and collect penalties from organizations that violate these rules? (Y/N)

YES.

8. **Health Care for All**. Would you support legislation to restore Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) eligibility to immigrants with status; remove discriminatory Medicare restrictions based on length of US residency for green card holders; and end the exclusion of undocumented immigrants from Affordable Care Act (ACA) marketplaces? (Y/N)

YES.

9. **Opioid Crisis**. An essential part of addressing the opioid crisis, overdose prevention centers allow medical professionals to respond to overdoses and engage participants in medical and behavioral health services. Would you support the legalization of overdose prevention centers and champion steps to encourage the building of such centers (see, as an example, [Project Weber/Renew Overdose Prevention Center](#) in Providence)? (Y/N)

YES.

I also support evidence-backed, medication-assisted treatment of substance use disorders.

10. Data Privacy. Would you support legislation to limit the personal reproductive and sexual health data that can be collected, retained, used, or disclosed to only what is needed to deliver a product or service? (Y/N)

With an additional exception for community-supported research projects such as the Pride Study. I also support comprehensive data privacy laws for all personal data.

Please use this space to share any other principles or proposals on this issue.

Health care should provide good, stable jobs, but not unlimited private profits for shareholders. We should allow doctor-owned hospitals, which have been shown to have better outcomes, and use antitrust regulation to prevent private equity from buying up hospitals and practices. I would also support directly funding primary care, so that everyone in America has a baseline of care available and hospitals aren't stuck trying to make it profitable.

E. Quality, Free, Publicly Funded Education

1. Education Funding. Do you commit to only voting for a budget that includes clear language ensuring that education funding goes out to states as passed? (Y/N)

YES.

2. Education Equity. More than seven decades out from the *Brown vs. Board* Supreme Court ruling, our public education systems remain highly segregated and unequal. Please name three policies you would advocate for in order to address this.

i. Provide additional funding to states that directly funds all public schools, rather than having funding tied to property taxes

ii. Fully fund ADA education

iii. Update the Fair Housing Act to address the housing practices that keep working families out of more-affluent schools

3. **Education Privatization. Do you oppose strategies to privatize our public education system such as**

a. **Expanding the use of vouchers?** (Y/N)

YES.

b. **Increasing the number of charter schools?** (Y/N)

YES.

4. **Special Education. Do you support, and will you advocate for, the restoration of the Office of Civil Rights in the Education Department and full funding for IDEA?** (Y/N)

YES.

5. **Universal School Meals. Do you support guaranteeing free breakfast, lunch, and dinner to all students, regardless of income?** (Y/N)

YES.

6. **Charter School Accountability. Do you support requiring that charter schools comply with the same transparency and accountability requirements as public schools?** (Y/N)

YES.

7. **Affordable Child Care. Would you support investing in universal child care infrastructure and affordability, guaranteeing that no families pay more than 7% of their income in fees and that lower-income families receive fully subsidized child care?** (Y/N)

YES.

I would also support simply providing free childcare to everyone. With a progressive tax system, universal programs are free to the wealthy the same way a tote bag is free to someone who donates \$200 to the PTA. That would allow for less administrative overhead and a stronger program

8. **Early Educators.** Would you support legislation to ensure that child care workers are paid a living wage and achieve parity with elementary school teachers who have similar credentials and experience? (Y/N)

YES.

9. **Educator Diversity.** The TEACH program (Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education) provides up to a maximum of \$3,772 per year to students who are completing or who plan to complete coursework that is required to begin a career in teaching and agree to serve as a full-time, highly-qualified teacher in a high-need subject area in a designated low-income school for at least four years. Would you support legislation to invest in a diverse educator workforce by increasing the maximum TEACH Grant award to \$8,000 per year to align with the cost of college and ensuring that the program covers the full cost of attendance? (Y/N)

YES.

I also support just making public higher education free.

10. **Student Loan Debt.** Student loan debt is holding back the economy, as graduates are unable to make important long-term investments in their future.
- a. **Would you oppose any plans to sell or transfer the federal student loan portfolio to the private market?** (Y/N)

YES.

- b. **Would you support the cancellation of student loan debt?** (Y/N)

YES.

We saw during the pandemic deferral just how much student loan debt is dragging down our economy. The next time we need to fight a recession instead of inflation, forgiving student loans should be part of the package.

11. **Tuition-Free Higher Education.** More and more jobs are requiring a college degree, but the cost of higher education has been growing faster than wages, contributing to a ballooning student debt burden. Would you support legislation to guarantee free tuition at public colleges and universities? (Y/N)

YES.

Please use this space to share any other principles or proposals on this issue.

Testing-centered education has failed. Instead, the most successful education policy isn't from the government at all: it is a strong professional culture among teachers. Respecting teachers, supporting teachers, and teaching the next generation of teachers well is the best investment in our country's future.

As a software engineer who knows how LLMs work and based on the current evidence, I do not support having children use generative AI chatbots at school. I will strongly oppose any pressure from AI companies to spend federal funds on software that hurts children's education.

On the other hand, there are ways we could better prepare children for the digital age. There is ongoing work to incorporate "computational thinking" into K-12 programs. That skill is about how logic and procedures produce predictable results. It helps children use computers and software well, and it has been found to have a positive impact on math and reading skills, especially preparing children for algebra. Despite recent efforts in some states, we are still missing curriculums and the slack for teachers to incorporate the new skills. In most schools, it only comes up in computer science and that is still treated as a high school elective. It can be especially discouraging for kids from underrepresented groups to encounter these skills that late.

F. Affordable, Decent Housing

1. **What do you view the role of the federal government in addressing the housing crisis?**

Throwing even more tax incentives at developers has not fixed the problem. The federal government needs to take responsibility, repeal the Faircloth amendment, and build housing. Only the federal government is in a position to overcome the pressures for more-expensive housing and the exclusionary communities it creates.

We can learn from our past and successful programs in other countries to make programs that work well and can provide good maintenance and administration. But solving this crisis requires standing up to the radical anti-tax movement and doing our job.

2. **Just Cause Eviction. Would you support legislation to establish a national just cause eviction standard, which would limit the grounds upon which a landlord may evict a tenant? (Y/N)**

YES.

3. **Inclusive Communities. Federal funding can be a major source of leverage in shaping state and municipal policy. Would you support legislation to tie transportation or housing funding to...**

- a. **End exclusionary zoning practices? (Y/N)**

YES.

- b. **Repeal state prohibitions on rent stabilization policies? (Y/N)**

YES.

4. **Public Housing. Would you support the repeal of the Faircloth Amendment, which bans HUD from funding the construction or operation of new public housing units beyond the total that existed in 1999? (Y/N)**

YES.

5. **Tenant Opportunity to Purchase. Would you support legislation to provide tenants with opportunities to come together to purchase their buildings prior to large, for-profit developers buying them? (Y/N)**

YES.

6. **Ending the Criminalization of Homelessness. Would you support legislation to prevent the criminalization of homelessness by ensuring that unhoused people cannot be arrested or ticketed by federal police when living on federal lands when there are no other options without blocking traffic, asking for help or donations in public places, practicing**

religion in public spaces, or living in a vehicle without blocking traffic?
(Y/N)

The details of the bill will matter, particularly considering how it treats sacred sites and educational resources on federal land.

7. **Access to Counsel. There is currently no federal right to a lawyer in housing court. Do you support expanding the right to representation to housing court?** (Y/N)

YES.

8. **Housing for Formerly Incarcerated Persons. In 2024, Former HUD Secretary Marcia Fudge released a [draft rule](#) enacting protections for formerly incarcerated people in housing, such as shortening the “lookback period” to 3 years. Would you support legislation to enact such protections?** (Y/N)

YES.

Please use this space to share any other principles or proposals on this issue.

When considering any bill that relates to incarceration, I will work to ensure currently-incarcerated people can testify.

G. A Fair and Efficient Criminal Justice System

1. **Ending the War on Drugs. The War on Drugs has been destructive to so many communities, making them less safe while failing to address the root causes of substance use or the drug trade. Would you support...**

- a. **Legalizing recreational marijuana?** (Y/N)

YES.

- b. **Expunging criminal records for conduct that has been legalized or decriminalized?** (Y/N)

YES.

- c. **Investing some of the tax revenue that would come from a federally legal cannabis industry into the communities most harmed by the failed War on Drugs?** (Y/N)

YES.

2. **Ending Mass Incarceration.** Do you support the following policies:

- a. **Repealing mandatory minimums for nonviolent drug offenses?** (Y/N)

YES.

- b. **Eliminating cash bail, so that no one is held in jail solely for an inability to pay, and conditioning federal grants on states' elimination of cash bail?** (Y/N)

YES.

- c. **Abolishing the death penalty?** (Y/N)

YES.

- d. **Eliminating the sentence of life without parole, which has been proven to have significant racial disparities?** (Y/N)

YES.

3. **Private Prisons.** Do you support barring the federal government and state and local jurisdictions from contracting with private corporations to run prisons and detention facilities? (Y/N)

YES.

4. **Prison Conditions.** In addition to having incarceration rates that far [outpace](#) those of other countries, the US is known for violating both domestic and international law in the conditions of its prisons. Do you support the following steps to emphasize the rehabilitative, as opposed to punitive, nature of the system and protect basic rights?

- a. **Preventing companies from charging prisoners unreasonable fees for banking and telecommunications services?** (Y/N)

YES.

- b. **Requiring that incarcerated individuals be paid for their work at a rate no lower than the federal minimum wage? (Y/N)**

YES.

- c. **Limiting the use of solitary confinement to no more than 15 consecutive days, beyond which it is defined as torture by the United Nations? (Y/N)**

YES.

5. **Police Accountability. Lax or nonexistent systems of accountability and perverse incentives at the federal, state, and local level, combined with a legacy of systemic racism, too often lead to law enforcement neither enforcing the law nor keeping the public safe. Would you support...?**

- a. **Prohibiting the transfer of military weapons from the federal government to state and local law enforcement? (Y/N)**

YES.

- b. **Reforming qualified immunity doctrine to ensure that it does NOT provide law enforcement officers that brutalize or otherwise violate civil rights with defense or immunity from civil liability for their actions? (Y/N)**

YES.

- c. **Restricting the use of civil asset forfeiture by police departments and prosecutors' offices? (Y/N)**

YES.

- d. **Prohibiting no-knock warrants for federal law enforcement and for state and local departments that receive federal funding, requiring them to provide notice of their authority and purpose before executing a warrant? (Y/N)**

YES.

6. **Gun Violence Prevention.** The US has the largest number of guns per capita in the world—and consequently one of the highest rates of gun deaths. For too long, the federal government has refused to play a constructive role in preventing gun violence. Would you support....?
- a. **Reinstating the federal assault weapons ban? (Y/N)**
YES.
 - b. **Banning high-capacity magazine ammunition? (Y/N)**
YES.
 - c. **Requiring a license to purchase a gun? (Y/N)**
YES.
 - d. **Limiting the number of guns an individual can buy to one per month? (Y/N)**
YES.
 - e. **Repealing the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act, which shields the gun industry from lawsuits? (Y/N)**
YES.
 - f. **Repealing the Dickey Amendment, which limits the CDC's ability to conduct research on gun violence? (Y/N)**
YES.
7. **Community-Based Response.** Would you support legislation to create a Division on Community Safety within HHS to fund, conduct, and coordinate research, technical assistance, and grant programs related to non-carceral, health-centered investments in public safety? (Y/N)\
- YES.
8. **Diversion.** Would you support legislation to allow federal judges to divert parents and caregivers from incarceration into comprehensive programs

that would better serve them, their families, and society by offering resources, services, and training to meet their unique needs? (Y/N)

YES.

9. **Ending Permanent Punishments.** Currently there is no standard process for sealing federal records. Would you support [legislation](#) to allow individuals to petition the United States Courts to seal records for nonviolent offenses that are not automatically sealed? (Y/N)

Potentially, though the details will matter. I am particularly concerned about making it even easier for participants in the current presidential corruption to escape accountability.

Please use this space to share any other principles or proposals on this issue.

We should have significantly higher standards for prison welfare, and we can pay for it by making sure no one is profiting from putting people in prison.

H. A Humane Immigration System

1. **Comprehensive Immigration Reform.** The approximately 14 million undocumented immigrants in the US are important contributors to strong economies and strong communities. Due to political and economic instability abroad, as well as a labyrinthine and discriminatory immigration bureaucracy at home, this number could very well continue to grow. However, comprehensive immigration reform legislation has remained elusive in Washington. Would you support the following policies?

- a. **The DREAM Act, which would allow certain US-raised immigrant youth to earn lawful permanent residence and American citizenship?** (Y/N)

YES.

- b. **A path for undocumented immigrants to gain US citizenship?** (Y/N)

YES.

- c. **Repealing the [three-year, ten-year, and permanent bars of reentry](#) for undocumented immigrants?** (Y/N)

YES.

2. **Reining in the Expansion of Deportation and Detention Machine.** Every day, we hear new unconscionable stories about how the US is treating immigrants at the border, fueled by both bad laws and lawlessness at the federal level. Our immigration system should reflect our values. Which of the following policies would you support?

- a. **Ending ICE's daily bed quota?** (Y/N)

YES.

- b. **Imposing a moratorium on the construction of new detention facilities?** (Y/N)

YES.

- c. **Repealing the increased funding for ICE from the "Big Ugly Bill"?** (Y/N)

YES. Yes, and all the rest of its funding as well

3. **Ending Family Detention.** Would you support repealing mandatory detention, prohibiting the detention of families and children in family detention, eliminating the use of private detention facilities and jails, and requiring DHS to establish civil detention standards? (Y/N)

YES.

4. **Immigration Court Reform.** The US immigration court system lacks appropriate safeguards from political influence. Would you support legislation to turn the nation's immigration court system into an independent judiciary and ensure that immigration courts are administered by qualified, impartial judges; have adequate court resources and support services; are defined by transparency and integrity; and are financially independent? (Y/N)

YES.

5. **Abolishing ICE. Would you support legislation to sunset the US Immigrations and Customs Enforcement Agency (ICE) and establish a commission to develop a more humane immigration enforcement system and to transfer functions like organized crime, drug smuggling, and human trafficking to other government agencies that are well-equipped to handle them and have proven track records of transparency, accountability and compliance with the law? (Y/N)**

YES.

6. **ICE Oversight and Accountability. ICE agents have been terrorizing immigrant communities here in Massachusetts and across the country. Would you support requiring DHS officers and agents engaged in immigration enforcement to clearly identify themselves by wearing visible insignia and specifying the agency they work for (e.g., ICE, CBP) during detentions and arrests banning the use of face coverings or non-tactical masks that conceal officers' identities? (Y/N)**

YES.

7. **National Guard. Would you support legislation to prevent the National Guard from being used for immigration enforcement purposes and functioning as an extension of ICE? (Y/N)**

YES.

Please use this space to share any other principles or proposals on this issue.

We should absolutely abolish ICE, as was recommended by the Department of Homeland Security itself back in 2005, but we need to do more. As soon as we once again have an independent Department of Justice, Congress should appoint a special prosecutor to investigate the systematic corruption, misconduct and abuses that have taken place under Kristi Noam. America deserves the truth, and the people who have been kidnapped, imprisoned and killed deserve justice.

The immigration system should be easy to navigate, welcoming and build a strong working class. Right now, the H1B program leaves workers vulnerable to exploitative employers. Even if an employee is fired for exercising their rights, they may be deported. No one should risk deportation because they try to unionize.

We also need to dramatically increase support for communities taking in

asylum seekers, and build housing to welcome them into. I visited ten families living in a church basement, with rooms cobbled together from curtains and bedsheets. We should be a nation of hospitality, not hostility.

I. A Diverse and Welcoming Society

1. **LGBTQ Rights. The Trump administration has been waging an all-assault on the LGBTQ community, especially the right of trans individuals to exist in public space.**

- a. **Would you commit to vote against and speak out against any rollback of LGBTQ rights? (Y/N)**

YES.

- b. **This year and last year, the National Defense Authorization Act included harmful anti-trans policy riders. Would you commit to vote against any omnibus bill, defense authorization, or spending bill that includes a rollback of LGBTQ rights? (Y/N)**

YES.

2. **Right to Read. Would you support legislation to classify discriminatory book bans as violations of federal civil rights laws? (Y/N)**

YES.

I have fought book banning in Middleton, and I will fight book banning in Washington D.C.

3. **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. Would you support legislation to codify executive orders from the Biden administration that required federal agencies to identify and address barriers to serving underserved communities and established agency equity teams and annual equity action plans to embed equity in federal planning? (Y/N)**

YES.

Please use this space to share any other principles or proposals on this issue.

As a visibly nonbinary person, having an X on my id and passport has been

fantastic. I would explicitly codify X into law, as well as gender-congruent passports in general, so that future Presidents can't revoke them on a whim.

I often have people ask me about children's sports, and I consistently point out that the point of children's sports isn't to decide which child is The Best. Sports are supposed to teach teamwork, coordination, dedication, sportsmanship, endurance and dealing with disappointment. The problem is that we started using sports as a lottery system for which kids can afford to go to college. We shouldn't be arguing over whether the Hunger Games are fair. We need to make public universities free for everyone and let kids play with their friends.

I look forward to being publicly out and nonbinary. I was a trans kid playing sports back in the eighties and nineties, so I've actually lived things other politicians are only speculating about. I hope that my presence will help us move away from treating people like me as political props, and towards a world where government systems can handle my gender.

J. Good Government and Strong Democracy

1. **Comprehensive Democracy Reform. Do you support the voting rights reforms from the former HR 1, the For The People Act? Among other things, HRI ("For the People Act") contained automatic voter registration, Election Day Registration, the expansion of early voting, the prohibition of partisan gerrymandering, and other vital reforms. (Y/N)**

YES.

2. **Ending Incarceration-Based Disenfranchisement. Currently, Maine and Vermont are the only states that provide full suffrage to the incarcerated. Do you support ending the disenfranchisement for those currently incarcerated? (Y/N)**

YES.

3. **Public Financing. Do you support public financing of Congressional elections? (Y/N)**

YES.

4. **Citizens United**. Would you support a constitutional amendment to overturn the Citizens United decision and allow limits on corporate political spending? (Y/N)

YES.

I would also like to see Congress exercise its Article III power and declare limits on election spending outside of the jurisdiction of the Court.

5. **Reining in Corporate Spending**. Would you support requiring that any corporate political spending must be approved by at least 75% of a corporation's shareholders and 75% of its Board of Directors? (Y/N)

YES.

6. **DC Autonomy**. In recent years, Congress has repeatedly meddled in DC's ability to self-govern.

- a. Do you support DC statehood? (Y/N)

YES.

- b. Do you commit to voting against any piece of legislation to override democratically passed legislation by the DC City Council? (Y/N)

YES.

7. **Supreme Court Reform**. The 6-vote reactionary Supreme Court majority has repeatedly violated precedent and the rule of law in order to embolden the Trump administration and hobbled the ability of the Biden administration to take action. What reforms, if any, to the Supreme Court would you support and advocate for?

- a. Impeaching current justices for bad behavior, including their open partisanship
- b. Demanding that any empty seat remain empty until after this wildly corrupt and abusive administration is no longer in power
- c. Expand the Court after this wildly corrupt and abusive administration is no longer in power
- d. Employ Congress' Article III power to limit the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court

e. Restore the Chevron deference so government agencies can do their jobs

8. **Anti-Corruption — Congress. Would you support a ban on Congressional stock trading of any kind? (Y/N)**

YES.

9. **Conflicts of Interest. Would you support legislation to require the President and Vice President to disclose and divest any potential financial conflicts of interest and require presidential appointees to recuse themselves from any matters involving the president's financial conflicts of interest that come before their agencies? (Y/N)**

YES.

10. **Anti-Corruption — President. Scholars have described the Trump administration as the most corrupt in modern history, with every week bringing new scandals, conflicts of interest, and corruption. What steps would you take to increase oversight and better hold officials to account for corruption and law-breaking?**

a. Pass a law clarifying that this President will absolutely go to jail if he does crimes, including crimes done while he is in office. This can be part of broader qualified immunity reform.

b. Make it clear that selling pardons is a criminal conspiracy, and make accepting a corrupt pardon a criminal offense

c. Make accepting bribes illegal again, even if the payment comes after the action instead of before

d. Establish that independent agencies are legal and legally protected, because the President isn't king. It is clear that the anti-corruption function cannot live in the executive branch.

e. Automatically make five years of tax returns public for all future Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates

11. **If you make one change to the US Constitution, what amendment would you adopt, and why?**

Replace our current Congress with a parliamentary system with proportional representation. That may seem radical, but it would let us have more than two political parties. That would increase political participation, and let people feel better represented. It would also solve the problem where one Wisconsin

voter has the power of 3.5 Californian voters, and we wouldn't be stuck in permanent campaign mode.

Please use this space to share any other principles or proposals on this issue.

I also support Puerto Rico's right to self-determination.

K. Sustainable Infrastructure & Environmental Protection

1. Green New Deal. Do you support the concept of a Green New Deal? If so, what should it look like?

YES.

Climate change threatens our entire future. We are already seeing the impact on our shores, when our roads flood, and in the forest fire a third of a mile from my house last year. But we also know that any efforts to stop climate change will face fierce opposition from corporate interests that got rich by making these problems worse.

A Green New Deal brings together labor, non-fossil-fuel corporations and environmentalists. That coalition is capable of defeating the pro-extinction force without provoking even more fascist backlash. To do that, the Green New Deal must provide for a just transition, new investments, cheaper energy and the infrastructure for the next century.

I had a geothermal heat pump installed for my home and it has dramatically lowered my heating costs. It will last for a hundred years, but it won't pay for itself for at least another decade. I could only do this because we had saved up the tens of thousands of dollars to spend up front.

This is exactly the kind of investment the government is positioned to help with. We know we'll get a good return on investment. We know it will make life more affordable and predictable and resilient. It is just a matter of having the money to spend, and choosing to help.

2. Energy Transition. In 2024, global temperatures were recorded at 1.5 degrees celsius above pre-industrial levels for the first time. We need to rapidly decarbonize our economy if we are to begin to reverse global warming. Which of the following policies would you support to accelerate that transition?

- a. **Setting a goal of 100 percent clean energy generation and use by 2035?** (Y/N)

YES.

- b. **Prohibiting new leases for coal, oil, and gas on all federal lands and waters?** (Y/N)

YES.

- c. **Opposing any legislation that authorizes, or expedites the permitting or approval of, new fossil fuel pipelines?** (Y/N)

YES.

3. **Clean Energy. What steps would you take to promote renewable energy development in Massachusetts?**

The greatest threat right now are Trump's erratic funding cuts to green infrastructure projects. The courts have consistently found those cuts illegal, but it has increased the cost and left projects in limbo for almost a year.

Congress could address this by establishing a subsidized insurance program for clean energy projects, to mitigate the additional political risk.

4. **Clean Water. Would you support legislation to require natural gas drillers to disclose the chemicals that go into the ground during the hydraulic fracturing ("fracking") process and to close the so-called "Halliburton loophole," which prevents the EPA from conducting rigorous oversight?** (Y/N)

YES.

5. **Environmental Justice. Would you support legislation to codify environmental justice into law; require federal agencies to address environmental justice through agency actions and permitting decisions; and strengthen legal protections against environmental injustice for communities of color, low-income communities, and indigenous communities?** (Y/N)

YES.

6. **Making Polluters Pay.** Would you support legislation to impose a fee on the largest US-based fossil fuel extractors and oil refiners and foreign-owned companies doing business in the US based on their percentage of global emissions, with the funds raised used to finance a wide range of efforts to tackle the impacts of climate change? (Y/N)

YES.

7. **Data Centers.** The rapid growth of data centers has been pushing up utility bills and consuming large amounts of energy and water. Would you support legislation to require data centers to publish their energy usage and provide additional clean energy supply to cover their extra usage (B.Y.O.N.C.E., "bring your own clean energy")? (Y/N)

YES.

8. **Electric Vehicles.** Would you support legislation to phase out the sale of gasoline- or diesel-powered vehicles by 2035? (Y/N)

NO.

I would support a federal vice tax and raising efficiency standards, but I don't support a federal ban.

9. **Fare-Free Transit.** Would you support investing in fare-free public transit? (Y/N)

YES.

10. **Public Transportation.** What would be your top priorities for federal investment in transportation and infrastructure if elected?

Having relied on public transportation for a majority of my adult life, I know how important and life-changing it is. I would like to see America's spending on public transit triple to bring us in line with other similarly-rich countries, and I have three specific priorities.

First, we should increase funding for bus service, particularly around America's suburbs. This investment can be much faster and cheaper than more-infrastructure-intensive forms of transit, and provide mobility in currently-car-dependent neighborhoods.

My second priority would be establishing a long-term funnel of transportation investments, so that companies building infrastructure can rely on that pipeline of work. We should commit to building high-speed rail between every state capital in the country, prioritizing passenger service over freight on our new lines. We shouldn't be trying to do this project on the cheap or privatize the service. Instead, we should be using the early projects to identify what makes building transit here so much more expensive than in other countries and fix those underlying problems.

Finally, rural America has unique needs not addressed by public transit that relies on density. Here, self-driving cars show particular promise. Once we have federal standards for safe self-driving cars, we should fund programs to establish local electric self-driving car shares and the renewable charging infrastructure to support them.

Please use this space to share any other principles or proposals on this issue.

L. National Security and the US's Role in the World

1. What principles and priorities govern your approach to foreign policy?

The US needs a stable, measured foreign policy that serves people, rather than corporations or ideology. While Trump has cratered our relationship with the world through erratic tariffs and unilateral attacks, the problems did not start with him.

I first got involved in politics protesting the disastrous Afghanistan and Iraq wars. I will consistently stand against wars of aggression and for peace, and I will demand Congress reclaim its constitutional role in military action.

Unconditional support for any country has proven disastrous, leading us to support expansionism, ethnic cleansing and even genocide when right-wing governments come to power. My support for any country will be conditional and incremental, and I will oppose all expansionism including our own. America should not be in the business of conquering territories.

When we use sanctions, they should be specifically targeted rather than a way to punish populations in countries we don't like. Sanctions have repeatedly failed to create regime change, and we shouldn't be trying to use them for that. Instead, sanctions should focus on specific actions, like Russia's invasion of Ukraine, and it should always be clear to the foreign government and their population what the country needs to do to have them lifted.

2. **If elected, would you support Section 702 reforms requiring federal law enforcement agencies to obtain a warrant before searching data collected by the NSA?** (Y/N)

YES.

3. **Would you commit to voting against the annual National Defense Authorization Act until the Pentagon is able to [successfully pass an audit](#)?** (Y/N)

YES.

4. **The so-called "Leahy Law" prohibits the US government from using funds for assistance to units of foreign security forces where there is credible information implicating that unit in the commission of gross violations of human rights; however, current and past presidents have evaded this law. Would you vote to block weapons sales or transfers to any country credibly accused of human rights abuses, such as Israel, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates?** (Y/N)

YES.

We must also reestablish USAID and guarantee its independence, so that we have non-military ways to engage with those countries. A forgiving foreign policy rewards countries that improve over time, and helps avoid situations where popular sentiment hardens against foreign pressure.

5. **In 2002, George W. Bush notified the United Nations that the US would not ratify the Rome Statute, which created the International Criminal Court. Further, Donald Trump has been undermining the ICC's work by sanctioning ICC officials and their families for investigating acts of genocide committed by the State of Israel. Would you commit to (a) opposing any such attacks on the ICC and (b) supporting the ratification of**

the Rome Statute and the US's participation in the International Criminal Court? (Y/N)

YES.

6. The Trump administration has engaged in an illegal campaign of bombing fishing boats in the Caribbean and an illegal campaign of bombing Venezuela. In both cases, the US military has killed civilians, and in the latter, the US has kidnapped the head of state, committing to an unpopular regime change policy.

a. Do you support using Congressional authority to ban military strikes on fishing boats in the Caribbean? (Y/N)

YES.

b. Do you support using Congressional authority to withdraw US military forces from Venezuela and prevent further military escalation? (Y/N)

YES.

c. Do you support using Congressional authority to prevent further military escalation in Latin America, such as proposed attacks on Cuba, Mexico, or Colombia? (Y/N)

YES.

7. Do you oppose Trump's military escalations against Iran? (Y/N)

YES.

8. Would you support ending the unilateral US trade embargo on Cuba that prevents Cuban purchases of US exports but does not affect Cuban trade with the rest of the world, thereby hurting both economies and populations while achieving nothing? (Y/N)

YES.

9. Do you support the United States rejoining global organizations that the Trump administration has left, such as UNESCO or WHO? (Y/N)

YES.

Please use this space to share any other principles or proposals on this issue.

III. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS