



PROGRESSIVE MASSACHUSETTS
2026 CONGRESSIONAL
ENDORSEMENT QUESTIONNAIRE

Candidate: Tram T. Nguyen

Office Sought: U.S. Representative, Massachusetts 6th Congressional District

Party: Democrat

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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 I've lived both sides of government, and I've seen what happens when it fails you, as well as what is possible when it delivers. My family came here for a better life, and we built it, day by day. Every Massachusetts family deserves the same: a safe, stable home they can afford, good public schools for their children that allow them to reach their full potential, government they can trust, and a place where all people can build a life with dignity.

My overriding concern is the erosion of the American Dream due to the increasing costs of healthcare, housing, and groceries. Families are struggling to keep their heads above water in this economy. For this reason, my top legislative priorities in Congress will be:

- Economic justice - increase federal minimum wage and PFML;
- Immigration reform: supporting DREAM, create pathway to citizenship, and abolish ICE;
- Housing affordability: expand funding for deeply affordable housing and rental assistance, prioritize extremely low income households, and support social housing at scale. Strengthen tenant protections, enforce fair housing laws, and incentivize zoning reform that promotes equity and affordability. Also, as we build, we must invest in energy efficient, climate resilient housing that lowers costs for families.

2. What prepares you to serve in this capacity?

My combined lived experience and professional track record together equip me with the understanding of what is at stake for everyday people, and the experience of how to deliver real results in a legislative role.

I've spent my entire career working to serve the people. As an attorney for Greater Boston Legal Services, I fought for those too often left behind—survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault, veterans, immigrants, low-wage workers, and people with disabilities. I was compelled to first run for public office in 2018 to fight back against the first Trump presidency, to champion the very people I fought for as an attorney, the very people who I saw my own family reflected in, who just wanted a fair shake.

Since taking office, I have worked tirelessly for the people I represent. My experience as a legislator has taught me how to move policy from idea to impact. I know what it takes to build coalitions, negotiate without compromising on values, and deliver wins that materially improve people's lives. I've worked across government and with community advocates to pass complex legislation while never losing sight of who the policy is for. Each legislative session I have brought home substantial earmarks in funding for the communities in my district, making sure to lead by listening to the needs of my constituents. On a broader scale, I led the charge to expand unemployment benefits (2020 CH197) and create tax benefits for low wage workers (2021 CH 9) during the pandemic as the leader of the Economy and Employment subgroup in the Progressive Caucus. Later, I garnered bipartisan support and passage of the U/T Visa Law (2021 CH 24), the first ever bill passed in Massachusetts that helped undocumented immigrants. In recent years I have played key roles in the passage of legislation that has sought to fix home equity theft (2024 CH 140), update firearm laws (2024 CH 135), and ban forced broker's fees (2025 CH 8), to name a few areas of note.

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

It is clear that progressive policies are benched at the federal level by corporate strangleholds on leadership, a lack of political will from those entrenched in their power, and a political system that allows big money and special interests to drown out working people in defense of the status quo. This is why it's important to elect public servants who truly represent the people. We need to send organizers to Congress, champions who will fight with the people and are not beholden to special interests. We can't continue to elect DC insiders who play by the old playbook.

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

I've been an unapologetic progressive. I ran as a progressive against a far-right MAGA Republican in a purple district in 2018, and I won then by double digits. I've been a part of the Progressive Caucus as a state representative since I joined the Massachusetts State House.

To me, being progressive means having faith that change is a positive force, and that determination and an unwillingness to limit our creativity to the confines of what has been the historical average rate of change, we can build a

better world. Being a progressive means holding firm in the belief that proactive government can be a force for good to reduce inequality, expand freedom, and protect the most vulnerable.

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

My father is my greatest role model. His bravery, his commitment to his ideals despite imprisonment and forced poverty, and his never-ending optimism are my guiding light. During the Vietnam War, he fought with American armed forces against the Communists in the name of democracy and freedom. After the war ended, he was forced into the Communists' re-education camps as a political prisoner for 8 years. He sacrificed beyond measure in pursuit of building a better world, not just for his children, but for his country. I can only hope to channel my outrage into action, and to never lose sight of what is possible, just as he taught me.

In Congress, I can promise that just as I do in the State House, I will operate with intentionality, with care, and with purpose in all I do. Everything will be done in pursuit of at least one of two things: delivering tangible improvements in the lives of the people I represent, or leading with moral clarity in all votes and decisions, to make the people of the 6th and Commonwealth proud and make the best possible choice for the people of this country.

II. Shared Leadership

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

If you ask any of my current constituents, they will tell you that even if they don't agree with all of my policies or votes, they can always count on me to be present and responsive. That will never change, regardless of the office I hold. I will never forget for whom I do this work, or the people who helped get me where I am today. It is vitally important to me to maintain open lines of communication, to have regular, sustained presence in community, to maintain my primary residence within the district, to host regular town halls, and proactive meetings with the groups and unions who supported my candidacy, not just when an issue arises. By prioritizing proactive collaboration

and understanding, I hope to foster an office where partnership is the default, and I am always accessible to the people

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

Hosting regular town halls, both virtual and in-person, is a key element of the type of Congresswoman I will be. My presence should be felt in the district, year-round, and folks should always have a line of access to me, which I plan to provide through mobile office hours. Each of the 39 towns and cities should feel the presence of my office. I do hope to establish and maintain policy-specific community advisory councils, to help inform my portfolio and to guide my efforts to deliver what is most needed for the district. Additionally, I understand the importance of maintaining relations with local and state officials to keep them updated on funding opportunities to bring money back to the district and understand how best to support the priorities of local communities. I also plan to continue my practice of distributing regular newsletters that will be shared both with my email list and on my website, so folks can get a sense of what votes I am taking, why I am taking them, and keep a pulse on how my time is being spent when in DC. I am open to additional suggestions on how to maintain an accessible office that prioritizes transparency.

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?**

While I fully intend to be the kind of candidate and Congresswoman who brings everyone with her, voter or otherwise, it must be acknowledged that immigrants, especially those without documentation, disabled people, low-income and shift workers, and young people who frequently move may continue to have less than ideal levels of access to government. My aim is to bring government to them, through multilingual outreach, mobile office hours, and trusted community partnerships.

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?**

Real influence means that impacted communities help set priorities before

decisions are made, not just that their feedback is received after the fact. I would build my legislative agenda through a structured, ongoing process that centers the expertise and lived experience of the people most affected by federal policy.

As mentioned earlier, I would establish standing issue-based advisory councils — for example on housing, immigration, disability justice, climate and environmental justice, and LGBTQ+ equality. These would be composed of community leaders, service providers, organizers, and directly impacted residents. These councils would meet regularly, not just during crises, and their recommendations would directly inform my legislative agenda, co-sponsorship decisions, and overall priorities. Before introducing or co-sponsoring major legislation, my office would engage with impacted communities and arm me with an understanding of unintended consequences, implementation challenges, and equity impacts.

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).**

Sharing power means intentionally designing an office so that decision-making authority is not concentrated at the top, and so that community voice is built into how policy is developed, staffed, and advanced. Sharing power means being willing to let community expertise change your mind.

I would prioritize hiring staff with lived experience in the communities that are often underserved, including those from immigrant backgrounds, renters, people with disabilities, LGBTQ+ people, and people from working-class backgrounds. This would not be limited to my District staff or to outreach-focused roles, but would be a core tenant of the kind of people we want in decision-making roles. That said, staff at all levels would be encouraged to contribute to legislative strategy, recommend positions, and flag equity concerns early in the process, rather than being brought in after decisions are made.

I also believe that community engagement wouldn't stop at listening sessions. My office would use structured tools such as constituent surveys tied to upcoming votes, issue briefings open to the public, and of course standing advisory councils composed of people not just setting agendas but living their implementation, to ensure constituent input informs real decisions.

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?**

A fair tax system is one in which high wealth individuals and corporations pay their fair share, and one where working people are not paying a higher effective rate than billionaires. Simply put, those with more should pay more, and those who are struggling do not feel their struggles deepen by nature of our tax code.

I support a progressive wealth, strong corporate tax enforcement, and closing loopholes that allow for offshore sheltering of profits. Tax policy should also be evaluated through a racial and economic equity lens, recognizing how historic exclusion has shaped today's disparities.

I would also advocate for providing Americans with immediate and permanent tax relief like the "Cost of Living" tax cut, which would eliminate federal taxes up to the cost of living for a single adult with no children and help make necessities like housing and childcare affordable for working families.

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)

YES.

- 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?**

YES.

Yes, I would advocate for repealing or significantly reforming pre-existing corporate tax breaks that reward offshoring, speculation, and excess executive compensation without delivering broad public benefit.

That includes ending the offshoring incentives in the Global Intangible Low-Taxed Income (GILTI) system, which still allow multinational corporations to shift profits and jobs overseas. I’m also interested in repealing or narrowing the carried interest loophole, which lets hedge fund and private equity managers pay lower tax rates than working people. And, fossil fuel tax subsidies such as percentage depletion and intangible drilling cost deductions need to be curtailed, as they prop up polluting industries. I’d also support tightening limits on the deductibility of excessive executive compensation and closing loopholes that allow large corporations to avoid the corporate minimum tax.

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?**

Raising the minimum wage is essential, but it must be paired with policies that lower daily costs. Simply upping wages in efforts to keep pace with the affordability crisis will never address the root issues at work. We must concurrently expand our housing supply (while expanding tenant protections), repeal the majority of Trump's tariffs that are driving up prices, limit health insurance premiums via tax subsidies while we work towards Medicare for All, invest in child care subsidies while we work toward universal pre-K, address corporate price-gouging on groceries and other necessities, and strengthen labor protections so that benefits can be dependable, and a union job can continue supporting a family.

I would also support sectoral bargaining, stronger enforcement of wage and hour laws, and targeted tax credits for low- and moderate-income workers. A living wage is about purchasing power and what your dollar can do for you, not just improving hourly pay.

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)

YES.

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?

Copied from minimum wage section, as my positions are delineated in that answer:

Raising the minimum wage is essential, but it must be paired with policies that lower daily costs. Simply upping wages in efforts to keep pace with the affordability crisis will never address the root issues at work. We must concurrently expand our housing supply (while expanding tenant protections), repeal the majority of Trump's tariffs that are driving up prices,

limit health insurance premiums via tax subsidies while we work towards Medicare for All, invest in child care subsidies while we work toward universal pre-K, address corporate price-gouging on groceries and other necessities, and strengthen labor protections so that benefits can be dependable, and a union job can continue supporting a family.

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

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.

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.

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)

YES.

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

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.**

First, we have to fully fund Title I and IDEA to ensure the money provided is directly responsive to student needs. Second, though it will not be an overnight solution, we must work to address segregation and redlining through fair housing and transportation policy, given that school inequality cannot be solved in isolation. Third, we must invest in culturally responsive and inclusive curriculum that nurtures the whole child, along with educator diversity to ensure students see themselves reflected in their education. This is something I am already championing at the state level via [H.655](#), An Act to promote comprehensive and inclusive curriculum in 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.

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.

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.

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.

I support student loan forgiveness but do wish to explore ways to ensure this is distributed with equity in mind. I have concerns about universal loan cancellation for those who are able to comfortably pay back their loans, and what the ramifications would be on working class people who do not go to college. I would support exploring thoughtful parameters of forgiveness, perhaps along the lines of forgiveness for those who 5 years out of college make less than a set number, which can be even higher for those in fields of public service, public education, or family/emergency medicine. This is a conversation I am eager to continue, and look forward to exploring creative ways to limit the burden of student loans.

F. Affordable, Decent Housing

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

The federal government has a responsibility to treat housing as a human right, not a commodity. The housing crisis is national in scope, fueled by decades of federal disinvestment, discriminatory policy, and corporate consolidation. It requires bold federal leadership.

As a former legal aid attorney, I represented families who were one rent increase away from losing their homes. Housing instability undermines health, safety, and economic security, and this crisis is far bigger than what states and cities can solve alone.

Congress must significantly expand funding for deeply affordable housing and rental assistance, prioritize extremely low income households, and support social housing at scale. We also need to strengthen tenant protections, enforce fair housing laws, and incentivize zoning reform that promotes equity and affordability. And as we build, we must invest in energy efficient, climate resilient housing that lowers costs for families.

The federal government helped create many of today's inequities. It must now lead in ensuring every person has access to safe, stable, affordable housing.

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)

YES.

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.

I support rent stabilization because families deserve predictability and protection from sudden, extreme rent hikes that can upend their lives. In my years as a legal aid attorney, I saw how a single steep increase could push a survivor of domestic violence, a senior on a fixed income, or a working family into crisis. Rent stabilization is about basic stability. It is not about punishing small landlords or freezing the housing market. It is about preventing displacement and keeping communities intact.

In Massachusetts, we are 40 years behind on housing production. We must ensure that new construction is encouraged, with specific incentives for affordable units to be a substantial element of new builds, alongside understandably more profitable, luxury units. That is why I support rent stabilization policies that are carefully structured, including exemptions for new construction and reasonable annual adjustments, so we protect tenants while supporting construction.

For me, this is not an either-or choice. We need to both protect renters now and dramatically increase supply for the long term. Stabilization helps stop the bleeding

in high cost communities, while federal investment, zoning reform, rental assistance, and support for nonprofit and social housing developers expand access and affordability over time. Real solutions require balance, urgency, and a commitment to keeping people housed.

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)**

YES.

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

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.

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.

This is deeply personal to me. My family escaped authoritarianism to build a life here in America, and I know what is at stake when government power is used to instill fear instead of protecting communities. I am devastated by the loss of life at the hands of an agency meant to uphold the law and outraged by families being torn apart.

There is no role in our country for Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) as it currently exists, and the unimaginable brutality of this agency cannot continue. I support the abolishment of ICE and a full reimagining of our immigration enforcement system.

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.

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.

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, HR1 (“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.

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?
- I am a firm believer that we must institute term limits for members of the Supreme Court, and would advocate for setting limits on existing and future members. I also would support exploring an expansion of the Court, as well as enforceable ethics standards and increased transparency.
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?

No one is above the law, and our Congress has for too long allowed this President and his cronies to go unchecked. Regardless of party, we need to demonstrate to the American people that laws are not suggestions, and hold ourselves to the highest standards. I support strengthening the independence and enforcement power of Inspectors General, including protections against retaliatory firing throughout the DOJ. Congressional subpoena enforcement needs to be restored and expanded, and we have to institute serious penalties for ignoring these subpoenas.

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

If I could adopt one constitutional amendment, it would overturn Citizens United, making clear that money is not speech and corporations are not people. Unlimited corporate spending has flooded our elections, amplified wealthy interests, and weakened trust in government.

Restoring the power of Congress and the states to set reasonable limits on campaign spending would rebalance power toward people, strengthen our democracy, and ensure every voice matters—not just those who can spend the most.

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

I am strongly in favor of public financing for campaigns, but would caution that its application would only be successful if all candidates were bound by the same parameters. Otherwise, well-financed campaigns and well-off candidates would continue to dominate in races, and tangible progress would be minimal.

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. I do support the concept of a Green New Deal. Climate action and economic justice must go hand in hand. In Massachusetts, we've already invested in clean energy, transportation electrification, and energy-efficient housing, creating good-paying jobs while reducing emissions. As Chair of the House Committee on Climate Action and Sustainability, I've focused on

expanding these programs, especially in communities most affected by pollution and climate impacts.

A federal Green New Deal should scale these solutions nationwide, investing in renewable energy, resilient infrastructure, and energy-efficient, affordable housing. It must guarantee good-paying jobs, workforce training, and prioritize communities historically left behind.

I fully support building a clean economy that leaves no one behind and safeguards the planet for future generations.

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. *See additional comments.

- 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?**

For as much as we have done at the state level to protect the Great Marsh, address the rising levels of the Merrimack and Ipswich Rivers, combat searise, and transition to clean energy, we need investments at the federal level.

Decarbonizing our energy portfolio is urgent. In Congress, I will push for federal investments in solar, hydropower, and particularly offshore wind, which

has enormous potential to create thousands of good-paying jobs in Massachusetts while generating clean, reliable energy. I will also support programs to modernize our electric grid, expand storage capacity, and make renewable energy accessible to all communities. Protecting the planet means scaling up clean energy at the pace science demands, and federal leadership is critical to make that a reality.

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)

YES.

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?**

If elected, my top priorities for federal investment in transportation and infrastructure would focus on expanding and modernizing public transit so it is clean, reliable, and accessible for everyone. That means electrifying the MBTA and commuter rail systems, expanding ferry service including year-round service for Lynn, and completing key projects like the Fairmont Line by 2028 and a new South Salem station.

I also support exploring a North-South Rail link to better connect communities across the region and creating tax incentives that encourage people to choose public transit. Federal investment should not just maintain our infrastructure but transform it, reduce emissions, create good jobs, and make it easier for families across Massachusetts to get where they need to go without relying on a car.

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

While I am fully supportive of ambitious goals for 100% clean energy generation and use, I do not ever wish to make promises to constituents or advocacy groups that I do not believe can be achieved, despite any level of will power and effort. Given the current lack of national investment and infrastructure, including lack of battery storage, I am not confident that 100% nationwide clean energy can be achieved by 2035. That said, I will do everything in my power to aggressively pursue our clean energy goals, as quickly as possible.

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

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

My approach to foreign policy is guided by the principle that protecting families in Massachusetts means engaging with the world beyond our borders. I came to the United States as a refugee when I was five, and I know firsthand how conflict, displacement, and instability affect real people. Pandemics, climate change, and global security risks do not stop at state lines, and the COVID-19 pandemic reinforced for me that government has a responsibility to respond quickly to crises, but we cannot do it alone. As an elected official, I have traveled to several countries, including the Philippines, Malaysia, India, and Japan to build diplomatic relationships and see how global cooperation strengthens communities at home. Recent years have shown the dangers of isolating ourselves from the broader global community. In Congress, I will work to repair and strengthen alliances, re-engage with institutions like NATO and the WHO, and push for partnerships that address the biggest threats to our security, economy, and public health.

Strong foreign policy is not abstract. It is essential to keeping families safe, creating stability, and ensuring the United States leads responsibly in the world

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.

I support our troops and defense workers and want to ensure that every dollar of taxpayer money is spent responsibly. I will push for a clean Pentagon audit and stronger financial accountability, using NDAA votes and other oversight tools to demand transparency while making sure our national defense and critical defense jobs are fully supported.

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.

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