



PROGRESSIVE MASSACHUSETTS
2026 CONGRESSIONAL
ENDORSEMENT QUESTIONNAIRE

Candidate: Jonathan Paz

Office Sought: US House of Representatives, MA-05

Party: Democrat

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Email questions to elections@progressivemass.com.

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 our Democratic Party leaders are failing us. They're not stopping Trump. They're not helping us make life more affordable. They're not building a party for the working class.

We need a people's Democratic party.

We need leaders who listen to their constituents and take them seriously. We deserve leaders in Congress who reject money from corporations and foreign lobbies. Leaders who stand with the working class, not the donor class that keeps rigging the system. We need leaders who will fight fight and organize to bring people together and deliver results:

- A "Good Life" economy with higher wages, stronger unions, and bringing prices under control
- Medicare for All
- Abolishing ICE and 21st Century Immigration reform
- No more endless wars

2. What prepares you to serve in this capacity?

I was born in Boston and raised in Waltham, and I've spent much of my life across this district. I've lived in Woburn, played soccer on fields in Arlington, and made monthly trips to Malden to the Department of Education as a student activist. This district isn't just where I campaign. This district is where my life took root, where I've built relationships, and where I continue to show up.

I've dedicated my life to fighting for working people – in the classroom, in union halls, and in public service. That's why I've taken on some of the toughest fights in Massachusetts: organizing for renters' rights in Waltham, standing up to Big Tech, and resisting Trump's ICE when our communities were under attack. In 2019, I was elected to the Waltham City Council, where I worked to ensure the city government served working families, not just the most well-connected.

Outside of elected office, I've focused on building durable coalitions. I founded

Fuerza Waltham and helped support LUCE's statewide emergency hotline for ICE raids, creating a rapid-response system that trained hundreds to document ICE activity, protect neighbors, and support families in crisis. I also founded the Fuerza Interfaith Emergency Fund (FEIF), which provides direct aid to families harmed by immigration enforcement.

What prepares me to serve in this capacity is not just experience, but accountability. I've spent years organizing, listening, and learning from people across this district. I know that strong representation depends on strong relationships to the grassroots. After this campaign, I will continue to maintain and grow those relationships the same way I always have: by being present, accessible, and committed to governing alongside the people who call this district home.

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

The biggest barrier to progressive policy at the federal level is simple: the Democratic Party's leadership is beholden to the donor class, not the working class. Rather than pushing ambitious legislation, Democratic leaders - like Congresswoman Clark - spend their time courting corporate donors. These are the same donors who back Republicans and shut out working people from the political process.

But the dysfunction runs deeper. Our democracy was in crisis long before Trump. Congress has weakened its own oversight role. Dark money corrupts our legislative and electoral processes. The Supreme Court operates with little accountability. Power has concentrated to the top while working people are shut out.

I am open to any serious reforms that strengthen democratic oversight and make our institutions answer to the public, including:

- Restoring voting rights, ending gerrymandering, and modernizing our democratic system for the 21st century.
- Holding the President accountable, through measures up to and beyond impeachment.
- Getting money out of politics. Citizens United must be overturned so billionaires and corporations can no longer buy elections. Democracy should not belong to the highest bidder.
- Expanding and promoting publicly funded elections so the working class- not the donor class – are the foundation of our campaigns.

- Transforming the Supreme Court to restore public trust and end the grip of elite ideological pipelines like the Federalist Society. No branch of government should be above accountability.
- Banning insider trading by Congress. Members should not profit from the stock market. I won't wait for it to become law; I won't trade individual stocks while in office.

Democracy survives only if we defend it and rebuild it.

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

Yes, I consider myself progressive but the term has been co-opted by Corporate Democrats, and it's time we take it back.

To me, progressive means you side with the working class, not the billionaires. It means you are willing to go to the root cause of issues through a humanitarian and egalitarian lens. That is why I refuse to look away when Congressional leaders like Katherine Clark fund a genocide in Gaza while denying it is one. Whip Clark is not an outlier. She is emblematic of a deeper corruption: the political establishment has hollowed out the spirit of progressivism while clinging to its label.

We need to reclaim what progressive actually means. I believe in a "Good Life Economy" or El Buen Vivir, as Indigenous communities in Latin America call it. A society where everyone has the right to material freedom: affordable housing, healthcare, and education, with time left for family.

Right now, the system works for the billionaire class and, by design, fails working people. Too many families in Massachusetts' 5th District live paycheck to paycheck while big corporations rig the rules in their favor. In the face of this cost-of-living crisis, government has an obligation to provide immediate relief and to transform the economy into one that sustains all people in harmony with the environment. We need an economy that enables working people to actually have a good life. Progressive means we cannot go back to business as usual.

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

I admire Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley - not for the title she holds, but for

how she holds it. She has stood the test of time on the issues that matter: peace with justice, debt abolition, and showing up for working people.

When it comes to Palestine, Pressley hasn't looked away. She has called the situation a "genocidal campaign," taken to the House floor to demand a ceasefire, and led over 100 colleagues in urging the State Department to surge humanitarian aid and infant formula to families in Gaza. She skipped Prime Minister Netanyahu's address to Congress to instead center the voices of those directly impacted by the war. That's moral clarity, not political calculation.

On debt, she has been just as relentless. She frames the student debt crisis as "an economic justice issue, a racial justice issue, and a gender justice issue" and she has fought alongside organizers to make debt cancellation a mainstream demand, not a fringe idea.

But what strikes me most is how she shows up in the district. She lives by her own words: "The people closest to the pain must always be closest to the power." She hasn't sold out because she answers to her constituents, not corporate donors.

That is the model I intend to follow: moral clarity, deep community roots, and the courage to speak truth even when it's uncomfortable.

II. Shared Leadership

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

If elected, I will stay accountable the same way I did as a City Councilor: by showing up. I held a record number of town halls - even through a pandemic - because I believe government works best when it hears directly from the people. I will continue to champion town halls while expanding our reach through regular newsletters and active social media engagement, ensuring working people have a direct line to their representative.

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

From town halls to neighborhood groups, I will carry a diversity of approaches

to engage the public. But it starts with the basics: I will publish the votes I take, with explanations of why I voted the way I did.

I'll also hold regular town halls, just as I did as a City Councilor - even through a pandemic - because government works best when it hears directly from the people. And I'll use social media not just to broadcast, but to listen and engage.

Transparency isn't rhetoric. It's a practice. I've kept it before, and I'll keep it in Congress.

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?**

The people with least access to me will be those without reliable internet or the time to attend events: working families too busy - juggling jobs and kids - to engage with government. That's a perennial problem and I've worked hard to solve it.

As a Waltham City Councilor, I built a citywide newsletter with over 4,000 residents and used social media to mobilize hundreds into town halls. But I also know that's not enough. I will keep finding new ways to meet people where they are: places of worship, community centers, wherever working people gather. I will be proactive in getting our message out.

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?**

As the son of immigrants, I've seen how power tokenizes marginalized communities. I reject that approach entirely.

The people closest to the pain must be closest to the power. I am not the first or last person beholden to that principle. That means I don't organize at communities; I organize with them. Throughout this campaign, impacted folks from across the district - on immigrant rights, housing, Gaza, and more - have helped shape our platform. Their lived experience is our blueprint.

I practice legislative humility: my job is to listen and build coalitions across economic interests. My priorities will be shaped by the communities most impacted because they know best what they need to survive and thrive.

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 in a Congressional office means building a team that looks like the communities it serves and then empowering those communities to drive the agenda.

On staffing: I will hire people with lived experience, not just a resume - immigrants, working-class voices and folks who have organized in marginalized communities.

On agenda-setting: I won't craft policy in a D.C. bubble. I will hold regular listening sessions where impacted constituencies - immigrant families, workers, residents demanding a ceasefire - actually shape our legislation, not just show up for photos.

On where I show up: You're more likely to find me at a popular mobilization - on a picket line, at a rally for immigrant rights, or in the streets demanding a ceasefire - than at a D.C. fundraiser.

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?**

For too long, Democrats have been too weak - standing by while working people are taxed at higher rates than billionaires. That is not sustainable.

A fair tax system starts with a simple principle: the wealthy and corporations must pay their fair share so working families can finally get ahead. I will advocate for:

- Taxing the rich - substantially - to fund the public goods we all rely on
- Increasing the cap on Social Security contributions so the wealthy pay into the system like the rest of us
- Closing the carried interest loophole that lets billionaires treat their income like Monopoly money
- Taxing capital gains at a higher rate, because it's wrong that investors pay less than the nurses and teachers that families across our district depend on.

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.

I would end the use of offshore tax havens to shift profits, abolish accelerated depreciation for corporate jets, and the 20% pass-through deduction for all businesses.

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 to \$25 and then index it to inflation after that.
 - 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?**

A \$17 minimum wage isn't a living wage - not in Massachusetts. Working people need more than a token increase; they need structural change.

That's why I'm focused on worker ownership. I will partner with organizations like the ICA Group to help retiring business owners sell to their employees - turning long-term workers into working owners. When workers own the business, they're no longer fighting for a raise; they're sharing in the profits.

A living wage isn't just about what you're paid. It's about what you own. I'm fighting for both.

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! I would vote for the Pro Act.

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?**

When a few giant corporations control entire industries, they don't compete; they collude. And working families pay the price.

I will take a scalpel to the monopolies that drive up costs for everyone. Right now, corporate price-fixing isn't abstract--it's hitting our district directly. Hannaford grocery stores are charging low-income communities 25% more for the same food than wealthier areas. That's a poverty tax of over \$3,000 a year for families already stretched thin.

This is price-fixing by design. And when the FTC tried to act, the Trump administration dropped the case.

We need to lower barriers for small businesses so they can compete with monopolists. And we need to hold corporations accountable when they act as saboteurs to working people's economic health because when corporations fix prices, families can't afford groceries.

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.

Right now, the system works for the billionaire class and by design, fails working people. Too many families in Massachusetts' 5th District are living paycheck to paycheck while billionaires and big corporations rig the rules in their favor. In the face of the cost of living crisis, our government has an obligation to provide short-term economic relief. We also need to transform the economy into one that sustains all of our people in harmony with the environment. We need an economy that enables working people to have a good life. We cannot go back to business as usual.

The Democratic Party had the chance to raise the federal minimum wage under President Biden but failed to make it happen. We need to fast track a raise in wages to a new minimum of \$25, but our efforts can't stop there. Congress must act to strengthen and defend unions, protect the right to organize, and make sectoral bargaining the norm again. History has shown us that when workers have power, wages go up – and the economy works for everyone, not just for the billionaires and Corporations!

Working families are being crushed by runaway costs – from rent and mortgages to groceries and prescription drugs – while corporations rake in record profits. This didn't happen by accident. It's the result of decades of bipartisan policies that put corporate greed ahead of ordinary people.

In one of the most expensive states in the country, we need bold action. I will fight to rein in price-gouging corporations, negotiate all prescription drug prices, and support strong antitrust and consumer protection laws. An economy that works for working people means lower costs, real competition, and putting power back where it belongs: in the hands of consumers, not monopolies.

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.

If you have a beating heart, you deserve to be able to see a doctor. When you see that doctor, you shouldn't have to worry about having enough money to pay co-pays and deductibles.

The United States is the only major, industrialized country in the world that does not

guarantee healthcare for its people. This has been an international scandal for many years, because the United States also spends significantly more per capita on healthcare than other wealthy nations while achieving worse health outcomes. While the Affordable Healthcare Act brought greater access to health insurance, it has failed to control healthcare costs. This is because profit not need is prioritized in our current patchwork system dominated by private insurance. To make matters worse, the Democratic Party has repeatedly capitulated to the health insurance and pharmaceutical industries, at the expense of the health and well being of the American people.

We should have a right to healthcare. What better way to fulfill that obligation than by expanding Medicare, an enormously popular government program already in place, to cover all people in the United States? Medicare for All would not only cover millions of uninsured people but also provide peace of mind to those with employer-provided plans who are afraid of losing their jobs because it would mean losing their insurance. Moreover, Medicare for All would also bring down healthcare costs by eliminating administrative waste and leveraging the enormous power of the federal government to control drug and provider prices. No more premiums. No more deductibles. No more co-pays. No more denials of care. Healthcare for all.

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, fully fund Title I.** The federal government has a moral obligation to address disparities. Title I funding was designed to level the playing field for schools serving low-income students but it's never been fully funded. I'll fight to close that gap so every child has access to qualified teachers, modern facilities, and resources they deserve.

- **Second, enforce desegregation aggressively.** Trump has pushed an aggressive, white supremacist vision for this country. I'll push the Department

of Education's Office for Civil Rights to actually investigate and enforce desegregation orders, not let them gather dust.

• **Third, ban for-profit charter expansion.** Too many charter networks drain resources from public schools while resegregating classrooms by design. I'll advocate for a moratorium on federal funding for new for-profit charters and redirect those dollars back to community public 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.

Universal Education - Higher education should be accessible to all people regardless of their race, ethnicity, or socioeconomic background. This is because a democratic society needs informed citizens capable of critical inquiry and civic cooperation in order to solve its most pressing problems. Furthermore, the next generation of young people will need to be able to get the best education possible in order to compete in the global economy.

Our problem in higher education is twofold. On the one hand, tuition and fees at our public colleges and universities continue to increase astronomically year after year, making earning a degree out of reach for millions of students from working class families. On the other hand, millions of Americans who already went to college are burdened by student debt, exacerbating the affordability crisis. Meanwhile, the very idea of public funding for higher education is being attacked by the Trump administration through its attempts to strip funding from universities, privatize student loans, and dismantle the Department of Education.

In the midst of Trump's gutting of the Department of Education, we need the largest reinvestment in our students and their families in decades. We also need immediate relief for people who already went to college and have student debt. That's why I will fight not only for public colleges and community colleges to be tuition-free but also to provide relief for those who are shackled by student debt. It's time for the United States to join most of the developed world in treating higher education as a public good, not a commodity.

F. Affordable, Decent Housing

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

The federal government should treat the housing crisis like the emergency it is - with the same scale and urgency as the post-World War 2 mobilization that built millions of homes for working families.

That means three things:

- Build at scale and build green. We need a historic federal investment in housing that is energy-efficient and decarbonized - lowering both emissions and utility bills while creating unionized jobs.

- Break up the corporate landlords. Private equity firms are turning neighborhoods into rental portfolios, pricing out working families while offering nothing in return. I'll fight to regulate corporate ownership of housing and end this land grab.
- Stabilize rents while we build. Construction takes time; families need relief now. That means federal support for rent stabilization and eviction protections so people aren't displaced while waiting for new supply.

We don't need nibbling around the edges. We need a wartime-level commitment to housing because for too many families, the fight for an affordable home is already a daily battle.

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.

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. These are often the avenues in unlawfully detaining migrants.

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)**

NO, I categorically prefer they simply not be compelled to perform unpaid labor. If there are cases where labor is used, then I'd advocate for market-rate compensation which exceeds federal minimum wage.

- 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. Militarizing our police doesn't make us safer; it makes our communities look like war zones. I support this prohibition fully. The data backs him up - studies show police militarization fails to reduce violent crime and actually increases officer-involved shootings and civilian deaths. True public safety isn't about having the biggest weapons. It's about building trust with the communities you serve.

- 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.

True public safety comes from meeting people's basic needs and strengthening our capacity to care for one another – not from punishment, prisons, or surveillance. When communities are housed, healthy, and supported, harm is less likely to occur in the first place.

If we are serious about preventing harm, we must expand access to mental health counselors, therapists, social workers, and crisis responders in our schools, neighborhoods, and public spaces. Too many people experiencing a mental health and substance abuse crises are met with handcuffs instead of care. Jail is not treatment, and punishment is not prevention. We need trauma-informed, community-based responses that de-escalate harm and help people heal — because safety means fewer people reaching a breaking point, not more people locked behind bars.

True public safety does not require mass surveillance. As artificial intelligence and

predictive technologies are increasingly weaponized against working people, activists, immigrants, and communities of color, we must draw a clear line: our rights do not end where new technology begins. As someone who has seen under the curtain of the surveillance industry, I support restoring and strengthening the Fourth Amendment for the 21st century, ensuring that privacy, due process, and freedom from unreasonable search and surveillance are protected in an age of AI, facial recognition, data mining, and digital policing. Public safety built on constant monitoring does not make us safer - it is control.

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. As someone who has seen their own family impacted by the arbitrary bars, we need an overhaul of our immigration system to be rooted in humanity, not brutality.

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. I will vote to cut ICE's funding entirely. We need to re-invest that money back into the people.

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.

As difficult as it is to protect our neighbors from ICE's reign of terror, we need to go a step further to get to the root of the problem. It's time to overhaul our broken immigration system and replace it with one rooted in humanity, not cruelty.

ICE is a rogue agency operating outside the law, and its abuses have now led to the killing of a U.S. citizen in Minneapolis on January 7. I've traveled all across Massachusetts and it's clear: people don't feel safer because of ICE. They live in fear of masked agents abducting their neighbors in broad daylight. What has become clear to the broader public has been true for immigrant communities for decades: brutality is the point. An agency designed by the Bush administration to apply the logic of the Global War on Terror to immigration enforcement cannot be reformed. Unfortunately, the Democratic Party leadership have not only further enabled ICE (with the passing of the Big Beautiful Act and the allocation of more than \$170 billion for ICE) they have repeatedly failed to use their Congressional majorities to create a humane pathway to citizenship.

When I say "Abolish ICE," I mean 4 things:

- Investigating and holding ICE agents accountable
- Abolishing ICE as a federal agency

- Passing a 21st century immigration system, creating a humane pathway to citizenship for our immigrant neighbors
- Redirecting ICE's \$170 billion budget back to schools, healthcare, and housing

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.

LGBTQIA+ people, and other marginalized communities have been the backbone of Democratic victories and too often, they've been taken for granted. For decades, our economic system has been especially brutal to working-class women, queer and trans people, and people of color, while billionaires at the top pit us against one

another to protect their own power. We're told to blame trans people, immigrants, or queer families for economic pain caused by a rigged system and that lie has done real harm.

I believe in righting that historic injustice. That means defending civil liberties and governing with a lens centered on those most impacted, not those most powerful. It means standing unequivocally with LGBTQIA+ communities – especially trans people – against political scapegoating and state violence.

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?**

The Supreme Court has been captured by a right-wing faction and Congress must restore balance. I support:

- Expand the Court. Add four seats to undo McConnell's stolen majority, as the Congressional Progressive Caucus has endorsed.
- 18-year term limits. Regular appointments every two years, ending the political lottery of death and strategic retirements.
- Enforceable ethics rules. No more undisclosed vacations, no more billionaire gifts. Justice should not be for sale.

No branch of government is above accountability. It's time to break the Federalist Society's grip and build a Court that serves working people.

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?**

The Trump administration proved our anti-corruption laws are toothless. We need the following:

- First, codify the Emoluments Clauses. Since we no longer take them seriously, I'll make explicit law what the Constitution already implies: no profiting from the Presidency. Period.
- Second, strengthen oversight. Expand the Office of Government Ethics with real subpoena power and independent enforcement authority - not just advisory opinions.
- Third, impeach President Trump. Trump should have been impeached for embezzlement-like behavior and constitutional contempt. Going forward, I will vote to hold any official accountable - up to and including impeachment - when they put personal profit over public trust.

Corruption flourishes when Congress looks away. I won't.

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

I would support a constitutional amendment to overturn the Citizens United decision and limit corporate political spending.

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

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 and I would also call it a “Green Jobs” program.

The climate crisis is real, human-made, and already reshaping our lives. Meeting this moment requires more than small fixes. It requires the clean re-industrialization of our country toward a sustainable future. I support a bold federal green jobs program that puts people to work tackling climate change while strengthening our communities.

That requires a just transition: retraining workers, paying people to go back to school, and investing in industries that heal our planet: clean energy, climate resilience, public transit, and environmental restoration. These must be the union jobs of the future. As such, we should empower the genius in working people to do living wage, unionized work that is both extremely urgent and socially beneficial, not trap them in the fossil fuel jobs of the 20th century.

We have a once-in-a-generation opportunity to deliver the largest investment in union jobs, wages, and training since the New Deal. This is our chance to build an economy that prioritizes working families, protects our planet, and leaves no one behind.

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?**

Clean energy development must be smart and just - not destructive. I support:

- Solar on built environment, not forests. We should install solar on parking lots, brownfields, and rooftops before paving over one more acre of Massachusetts farmland or forest. We can meet our climate goals without destroying the natural lands that sequester carbon and filter our water.
- Stop utility profiteering. Gas and electric companies charge ratepayers for lobbying, advertising, and trade association dues - often working against our climate goals. I'll fight to ban ratepayer-funded lobbying and ensure utility money serves customers, not shareholders
- Invest in a just transition. From offshore wind workers to pipefitters transitioning off gas, we need federal support for training and prevailing wage protections. The people who powered the old economy shouldn't be left behind in the new one.

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?

Public transportation is a public good. My top priorities for federal investment are:

- **First, make transit free.** The federal government should provide competitive grant programs to help cities and states eliminate fares entirely. Fare-free transit is an economic, racial, and climate justice issue and proven pilot programs in Boston have already boosted ridership and improved service
- **Second, electrify everything.** To decarbonize, we need to electrify buses, rail systems, and fleet vehicles. We must prioritize frontline communities burdened by pollution.

- **Third, tear down barriers for marginalized communities.** We need to study and address the obstacles people in poverty face when trying to access transit. We can't fix what we don't measure.
- **Fourth, hold agencies accountable.** We need to demand timely delivery of transit infrastructure - not excuse it as business as usual.

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?

One of our main campaign pillars is “No More Endless Wars.”

For too long, starting and funding endless wars abroad has had bipartisan support. This is particularly shameful for Democrats because for much of the latter part of the 20th century the Democratic Party had a small but influential antiwar wing. Countless foreign interventions not only have made our country less safe, they have wasted valuable resources that could be used here at home.

In the richest country in the world, people can't afford rent and groceries but Congress always finds money to drop bombs on people – in “other” parts of the world. As your congressman, I would actively oppose the Democratic leadership's complicity in our warmongering status quo. We cannot “bomb our way to peace.” Instead, I would prioritize resolving international conflicts peacefully through diplomacy.

These endless wars have not been about democracy or freedom. This is becoming more and more apparent to the American public as Trump has unabashedly claimed that we should “take over” and “own” Gaza, or more recently, “run” Venezuela and conquer Greenland. Aggression is the gravest breach of international law according to the United Nations Charter and was defined by American lawyers at Nuremberg Tribunal as “the supreme international crime.” Therefore, we must begin to recognize that peace, promoting international cooperation, and standing up for human rights begins first and foremost with respecting other nations' sovereignty.

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.

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

Jonathan Paz is an organizer's organizer. He grew up in Waltham, the son of Bolivian immigrants, spending his childhood on soccer fields in Arlington and wrestling mats in Woburn – places that made Massachusetts feel safe and welcoming. That sense of security changed when Jonathan was 14, after his father was detained and deported, separating his family.

Rather than letting that moment define his future, Jonathan fought back. He became the first in his family to attend college, earning a degree in Economics from the University of Pennsylvania. His family's experience

shaped a lifelong commitment to social justice.

Jonathan began his career as an educator, teaching Spanish and Portuguese and leading immersion programs. He later became a union organizer, representing hundreds of workers across industries and helping secure fair contracts, safer workplaces, and job protections.

His leadership soon expanded to the state level, where he took on high-stakes fights and beat long odds. Jonathan helped defeat Big Tech-backed, anti-worker ballot initiatives and played a key role in advancing landmark legislation like the Tuition Equity Act, securing millions for immigrant students in higher education.

In 2019, Jonathan was elected as one of the youngest City Councilors in Waltham's history, unseating a 30-year incumbent. On the Council, he fought for public housing, tenant protections, and environmental action. In 2023, he ran for Mayor, challenging the political establishment with a vision rooted in equity, inclusion, and sustainability.

Over the past year, Jonathan has focused on immigration defense during ICE raids across Massachusetts, helping launch an immigration defense hub in Waltham and raising thousands for emergency support. His work has earned recognition from local and statewide organizations, including the Globe Magazine's Amplify LatinX ALX100 and ALPFA Boston's NEXT 50 Award for Community Leadership.

When he's not organizing, Jonathan enjoys running along the Charles River, dancing salsa and bachata, and playing chess. Guided by his roots, he continues to fight for a world where justice isn't a privilege but a promise kept.