



PROGRESSIVE MASSACHUSETTS
2026 CONGRESSIONAL
ENDORSEMENT QUESTIONNAIRE

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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 office because Democrats are not meeting the moment, and that's dangerous. Despite elevating their language and correctly describing a second Trump administration as an "existential threat to our democracy", their actual *actions* are unchanged from their approach to previous Republican administrations. In fact, in some ways, they've retreated compared to the first Trump administration – for example, Senator Markey placed some holds on nominees during Trump's first term, but has yet to do so during this term. Congressional Democrats have made the choice to hold back, to not use most of the potential tools available to them, and to allow regular order to continue – even while they publicly claim that Trump is "acting like a dictator" and "destroying our democracy". This approach is at odds with research on decaying democracies, which calls for more aggressive pushback from opposition parties. It is also the opposite of what grassroots Democrats in Massachusetts have called for, as evidenced by the April 2025 open letter to the Massachusetts' Congressional delegation signed by over three dozen Democratic Town and City Committees. We need a Democratic opposition in Washington that will actually do everything possible to minimize the harms this administration can inflict, and that is not what we have right now.

Once Democrats have the power to pass legislation, our top priorities will have to be structural reforms. Many of the same structural reforms that will allow us to repair, strengthen, and improve our democracy also serve as reforms that will enable us to finally pass the many progressive policies we've fought for decades to achieve. That's why my top three legislative priorities are:

- Fix the Supreme Court (expand the Court, institute term limits, institute a fixed appointment schedule, and codify an enforceable code of ethics)

- Campaign finance reform (overturning Citizens United is the ultimate goal, but that is a longer project; day one legislation can increase funding for the FEC to improve enforcement, increase disclosure requirements to end dark money, and passing a resolution to formally declare that Congress views Citizens United as having been wrongly decided)

- Voting rights protections (finally pass the John Lewis Voting Rights Act and the Freedom to Vote Act, or its stronger predecessor, the For The People Act)

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

I'm prepared to serve because I understand how institutions function, where they fail, and how those failures have played out historically. My training as a history teacher has shaped how I understand the stakes of this moment and given me the tools to apply the lessons of history – so that I can help our communities draw upon strategies that have succeeded and steer clear of those that have failed. I also bring the perspective of an ordinary person who has experienced COVID, inflation, and rising housing, healthcare, and childcare costs from outside the Washington bubble, and can better identify with the struggles that are dominating the current political landscape.

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

The Supreme Court, followed by the filibuster.

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

My personal theory of political labels is that most people have different working definitions of what terms like “progressive”, “liberal”, etc., mean, and therefore that these terms can often become obstacles to progress. As a result, I prefer to avoid using such labels when possible – whether to describe myself or others.

That said, whatever definition of “progressive” you use, it probably includes me. I only answered “no” to one question on this survey. The current members of Congress I am most likely to agree with on any particular policy are people like Pramila Jayapal, Jim McGovern, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, and Maxwell Frost – all of whom are members of the Congressional Progressive Caucus, three of whom are in its leadership. Historically, the term first became associated with a coherent political movement around the turn of the 20th century. Broadly speaking, that movement was focused around increased political access and using government to improve economic fairness, public health, and quality of life. Those are the same core goals of my campaign. I want to achieve the structural reforms that make our government more representative, more inclusive, and more capable of addressing the issues of fairness, health, and quality of life that we have not made enough progress on for decades.

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

Maxwell Frost. not only do we align on most policy positions, but I have immense respect and appreciation for the creative ways that he has used his position to bring new people into the political process. He also championed a 2023 law that made it much more practical for non-wealthy candidates to run for office.

II. Shared Leadership

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

First, my responsibility is to the entire Commonwealth, not only to the organizations and communities that supported my campaign – I must remain accountable to everyone. Second, I would establish formal, recurring processes to ensure regular meetings with representatives from community organizations, faith groups, labor, and issue-based advocates, so those relationships are ongoing. Third, accountability means building those relationships into the agenda-setting process itself, so community input informs priorities from the start rather than being solicited after decisions are already made.

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

In addition to the community initiatives mentioned above, frequent town halls, and public vote explanations, I'm interested in tools that make process more visible – such as plain-language explanations of procedural decisions and structured windows for early constituent input when priorities are being set.

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 same communities who always have the least structural advantages – for example, low-income people, immigrants, disabled people – are also the ones most likely to have difficulty accessing any sitting Senator. To address that, I would prioritize seeking people out – efforts at improved accessibility alone

still imply relying on others to come to you. We would achieve this by directing staff time toward community-based organizations, meeting people in their own spaces, and creating engagement opportunities that do not depend on money, connections, or free time.

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?**

The framing of this question gets at a core challenge: candidates know what the right answer should look like, but because “influence” is abstract, it often remains aspirational rather than operational. In that context, I think this question is best answered with a concrete example.

A few months ago, I was scheduled to speak at a narrowly focused protest. Before the event, I asked to meet with the organizers to make sure my remarks would advance their priorities. During that conversation, an organizer suggested I include the policies I would advocate for if elected. I replied that while I had ideas, they had spent years focused on this issue, and I asked “what policies would you want me to be advocating?” He told me it was the first time any candidate or elected official had asked him that question.

That’s who I am. I naturally seek out the perspectives of people most impacted and most experienced, and I let that input shape what I advocate for publicly and legislatively. That approach is core to how I operate – even behind closed doors, and long before I ever thought about filling out a survey like this one.

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).**

In practice, sharing power means designing an office so influence isn’t concentrated at the top or reserved for insiders. On staffing, that means hiring people with strong ties to impacted communities and giving senior staff real authority to elevate constituent concerns into decision-making, not just manage outreach. On agenda-setting, it means creating structured ways for community input to shape priorities early – before positions are finalized or legislation is introduced. And on constituent engagement, it means organizing access around who is least likely to have it, by proactively seeking people out rather than waiting for them to come to Washington.

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 asks for more from those at the top and stops shifting the burden onto working people. That means closing loopholes that reward wealth over work, narrowing the gap between capital gains and income taxes, ensuring large corporations pay their fair share, and enforcing the tax code equitably.

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. We should work to repeal as much of the 2025 summer budget bill as possible – not just the tax breaks.

Many. More recent additions to the tax code that have yielded problematic outcomes and contributed to increased inequality include the dramatic cut to corporate tax rates in 2017 and the addition of the “pass-through deduction” created in that same bill.

Tax policies that effectively incentivize offshoring are also highly problematic and are worth mentioning here, though the most effective solution there would be well-crafted reform (as opposed to repealing a specific existing law).

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?**

The biggest drivers of the rising living wage thresholds are housing and healthcare costs, and so the most effective answer to this question is to enact the policies described in Section F and Section D of this questionnaire.

Expanding policies like the Earned Income Tax Credit and the Child Tax Credit can also help, but housing and healthcare are the most relevant factors.

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. I support eliminating the cap entirely.

- 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. Preferably something stronger. While I am proud to live in a state that leads the nation in family and medical leave protections, our state's protections still trail those of most peer countries.

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?

The two biggest drivers of the affordability crisis are housing costs and healthcare costs. Housing costs are addressed in depth in Section F of this questionnaire, and healthcare costs are addressed in depth in Section D of this questionnaire. We should also address other aspects of cost of living – for example, by repealing Trump’s tariffs – but the “affordability crisis” will remain a dominant issue in our society until we address its two biggest drivers.

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

As a demonstration of how strongly I agree with and prioritize the policies in this section, my website’s platform page was deliberately written to emphasize accessibility and clarity rather than serving as an exhaustive policy list. notably, despite that choice, almost* every specific policy mentioned here is included on that page. (*My website calls for increasing the minimum wage without naming a target dollar value, and the unions section does not explicitly reference Congressional staff unionization.)

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.

It is important to note that these five principles vary dramatically in difficulty and complexity. In particular, the fifth principle (preventing public officials from profiting off of crypto tokens) is straightforward – we should address that immediately, and not allow the intricacies of the other principles to slow down that progress.

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, with an important caveat.

I oppose Big Tech efforts to preempt legitimate state regulation of privacy and artificial intelligence. At the same time, I would not support state laws that invoke “privacy” as a pretext to suppress disfavored speech or target marginalized communities, including LGBTQ+ people, as we have seen in some recent cases.

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)**

Medicare Advantage overbilling – and underdelivering – is a major problem that the federal government must address. I am not convinced that the specific approach described in this question is the best approach to solving those two problems, but I am open to it if evidence shows it would meaningfully reduce overbilling and improve care. I commit to working towards reforms that address the problems of overbilling and underdelivering, and will help advance any improvement over the status quo.

- 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, as long as the law includes protections guaranteeing the right of relevant agencies to conduct quality and safety inspections.

- 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.

Like many of the people reading this document, I have lost friends to the opioid crisis. We must do the things we know will save lives.

- 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.

The “Reproductive Rights” section did not mention, but this demands inclusion: we need federal laws guaranteeing bodily autonomy and reproductive freedom.

Furthermore, the generic Democratic applause line, “codify Roe v. Wade”, is a disastrous proposal. Roe was a limited, 53-year-old privacy law that left millions of women vulnerable around the country. While the Dobbs decision that overturned Roe relied on shoddy legal reasoning and created an even worse public health crisis, the solution cannot be to rewind the clock back to the failures of Roe. We need stronger, forward-looking legislation that protects everyone.

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, I would advocate for significantly increased federal funding targeted to high-poverty districts, paired with stronger enforcement of civil rights laws to prevent states from perpetuating inequitable school funding systems. Second, I support aggressive enforcement of federal fair-housing and civil-rights laws through HUD, because segregation in schools is inseparable from segregation in housing. Third, I would push for federal investment and standards to address inequities in teacher pay, staffing, and working conditions, which drive chronic shortages and instability in the schools that need experienced educators the most.

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. I would add that we need protections to guarantee charter school employees access to unions.

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. This would need to be paired with a program like the one described in Question 7 in order to ensure the long-term viability of small and independent child care centers, which operate on tight margins and account for the overwhelming majority of care centers in our region. I believe both policies – the ones described in Q7 and Q8 – are worthy goals, and are achievable.

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.

F. Affordable, Decent Housing

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

The federal government's most effective role in alleviating the housing crisis is to create incentives that lead to more housing getting built fast.

Washington should use funding and policy levers to encourage states and municipalities to permit and build more housing overall. This includes incentives for upzoning, streamlining approvals, and removing obstacles to construction. The strongest incentives should prioritize housing near public transit and accessible locations, but the core goal is simple: more homes, in

more places, quickly.

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.

note: for both of these, my first choice would be to create new funding sources (ex. infrastructure grants) and make access to those conditional on passing the policies described in A & B. I am willing to use the proverbial "stick", but my preference would be to try using a very appealing "carrot" first.

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, assuming it is paired with funding for the non-monetary-based programs that have been shown to increase court appearance rates and manage pretrial risk without compromising public safety.

- 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. I would support a cap of fewer than 15 days, as well.

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)

NO. This is an unnecessary infringement on personal independence, and there is less evidence that it would improve public health than the other proposals in this section.

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, with an asterisk.

The ultimate goal should be to eliminate immigration-only detention entirely – we already have separate facilities for criminal proceedings, and people should not be incarcerated for civil immigration matters. While working toward that goal, I would accept a strictly limited one-in-one-out replacement policy only where it demonstrably reduces harm, requires demolition of existing inhumane facilities, and does not increase detention capacity.

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

YES.

Abolish ICE.

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. **Future of 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. As part of this elimination of ICE, we must require that current ICE employees are barred from moving into the new roles reassigned to other agencies. This must be a true tear-down, not a re-brand.

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.

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.

We need to defend LGBTQ+ communities with clarity and courage, and never hedge or retreat based on polls or political considerations. Civil rights aren't a messaging strategy. They're a commitment, and I will fight to protect and expand them.

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. **(SENATE ONLY) Filibuster**. Do you support eliminating the filibuster? (Y/N)

YES.

8. **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 addressed this above, in my “top three legislative priorities” section. To go into more depth:

- Expand the court. The Court is currently in crisis – what is supposed to be an independent, non-partisan, deliberative body has become overtly political and authoritarian. The additional reforms listed below improve the long-term health of the Court, but do not address the current crisis. If we do not address the current crisis, then this captured court would nullify almost every policy named in this survey, if given the chance. If we do not address the current composition of the Supreme Court, the rest of any Democratic agenda is unachievable.

- Term limits & a set appointment schedule. Over time, this guarantees that the composition of the Court is more reflective of the expressed preferences of the American voters.

- An enforceable code of ethics. Decisions about recusal cannot be solely in the hands of the individual Justices themselves, and there must be consequences for ethical violations such as the ones exposed by ProPublica surrounding improper gifts from billionaire Harlan Crow.

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

YES.

10. **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.

11. **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?

I would make full use of the congressional oversight tools to expose corruption and law-breaking, including triggering GAO audits, supporting independent Inspectors General investigations, and conducting inspections of federal facilities. Congress must also enforce ethics and conflict-of-interest rules rather than treating them as optional.

As I discuss in more detail in the foreign policy section, below, accountability must ultimately include impeachment. Impeachment is achievable, and it is meaningful even if the Senate fails to convict. The process itself forces public investigation, sworn testimony, and recorded votes, and it makes clear that violations of law and abuse of power carry consequences. At present, if House Democrats are unified, then only need three Republicans would be needed to impeach – there are currently two sitting Republican members who have previously voted for impeachment.

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

I would adopt a broad constitutional Equal Rights Amendment guaranteeing equal protection under the law regardless of race, ethnicity, sex, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, age, pregnancy status, health, or religion, so that fundamental rights are explicit, universal, and no longer contingent on shifting statutes or courts.

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?**

2. YES. I support the goals of a Green New Deal as a framework for addressing the climate crisis while creating good-paying jobs and strengthening communities. It should focus on rapidly reducing greenhouse gas emissions through clean energy deployment, modernizing buildings and transportation, investing in climate-resilient infrastructure, ensuring a just transition for workers and communities, and prioritizing public health and environmental justice.

3. **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.

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

I would support policies that expand clean energy deployment by investing in grid modernization and transmission, streamlining permitting for renewable projects, and providing stable federal incentives for wind, solar, and storage. I would also prioritize federal investment in scientific research, innovation, and commercialization so the next generation of clean energy technologies is developed and manufactured here in Massachusetts, alongside workforce development to ensure the transition creates good-paying jobs in local communities.

5. **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.

6. **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.

7. **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.

8. **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.

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

YES, with an asterisk.

I would support legislation to phase out the sale of gasoline- or diesel-only powered vehicles by 2035.

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

YES.

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

My top priorities would be investing in reliable, affordable public transportation; repairing and modernizing existing infrastructure; and expanding transit options that reduce emissions and connect people to their communities, jobs, education, and healthcare. Federal investments should prioritize safety, climate resilience, and equitable access, particularly for communities that have been historically underserved.

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?**

My approach to foreign policy is guided by a commitment to human rights, the rule of law, and democratic accountability, paired with a clear-eyed assessment of U.S. interests and global realities. I believe in diplomacy first, strong alliances, and multilateral institutions, while recognizing that restraint and adherence to international law are essential to long-term security. American power should be used judiciously, with congressional oversight, a preference for conflict prevention over military escalation, and an understanding that global stability ultimately depends on addressing economic inequality, climate change, and human security. Often, the most cost-effective way to advance long-term U.S. interests is through humanitarian assistance and development efforts that build goodwill, prevent crises before they escalate, and strengthen global resilience.

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.

While the Trump administration commits potentially impeachable offenses virtually daily, I believe that two actions this term rise above that threshold. When Donald Trump defied the clear language and intent of the Constitution by ordering attacks on Iran and Venezuela without Congressional authorization, he committed violations that demanded impeachment. As the founders explained, the very purpose of including impeachment in the Constitution was to protect against straightforward abuses of power such as this. Congress' failure to immediately respond to these egregious violations with appropriate and necessary gravity was an abrogation of duty. Trump's threats towards Cuba, Mexico, Greenland, and more are a direct and predictable consequence of Congress' failure. I discuss the historical and constitutional justification for this position in more detail in this op-ed: <https://www.welcometohellworld.com/the-logical-consequences/>

Finally, I want to directly address the argument that impeachment is “unachievable” and therefore not worth pursuing. That claim does not hold up to scrutiny. In practical terms, it is easier for Congress to pass articles of impeachment than it is to enact enforceable statutory limits on presidential action in this area (such as the policies proposed in Questions 6 and 7). Impeachment in the House requires only a simple majority, while binding legislative constraints on presidential war-making would require supermajorities large enough to override an inevitable veto. Even if the Senate ultimately fails to convict, the impeachment process itself is a meaningful exercise of congressional power: it compels investigation, sworn testimony, and recorded votes, and it forces members to publicly take responsibility for their positions.

III. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Many members of this organization are deeply dissatisfied with current Senate Democratic leadership, especially Senator Minority Leader Chuck Schumer. It’s important to be clear-eyed about what would actually lead to his replacement.

Schumer’s stated strategy since Trump’s election has been to prioritize 2026 midterm considerations over the impact of potential actions taken now. Whether due to Schumer’s efforts or despite them, it appears increasingly likely that Democrats will gain seats in 2026. If Democrats gain seats without any electoral demonstrations of dissatisfaction with incumbents, the inevitable conclusion among party leadership and political media will be that Schumer’s strategy was right all along.

Schumer was chosen by the sitting members of the caucus. The same senators who elevated and have continued to support Senator Schumer are extremely unlikely to reverse course, especially if buoyed by electoral successes.

The only realistic path to new leadership is to change the composition of the Senate Democratic caucus itself. Massachusetts is one of only eight states where voters have a direct opportunity to do that: an incumbent senator is on the ballot and facing a Democratic primary challenge. Massachusetts’ situation is even rarer, as we have a primary challenger who is ideologically aligned with the Democratic base – and with Progressive Mass – while calling for stronger, more effective leadership. Most states do not have that option.

Supporting primary challenges is the only mechanism through which Senate leadership can actually change. This race offers a rare chance to align our values with leadership outcomes we seek.