



DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES FOR
STATE SENATE

BRISTOL & NORFOLK

ENDORSEMENT QUESTIONNAIRE

PROGRESSIVEMASS.COM/elections JULY 2017

ENDORSEMENTS ARE DETERMINED BY VOTING MEMBERS OF PROGRESSIVE MASSACHUSETTS.

ELECTION INFORMATION

WHO: REGISTERED VOTERS IN THE BRISTOL & NORFOLK STATE SENATE DISTRICT—consisting of the city of Attleboro, ward 3, precinct B, ward 4, precincts A and B, ward 5, precincts A and B, ward 6, precincts A and B, and the towns of Mansfield, Norton, Rehoboth and Seekonk in the county of Bristol; and the towns of Foxborough, Medfield, Sharon, precincts 1, 4 and 5, and Walpole in the county of Norfolk.

CHECK VOTER STATUS: sec.state.ma.us/voterregistrationsearch/myvoterregstatus.aspx

WHEN: **September 19**, 2017 (Primary) and **October 17**, 2017 (Election)

WHERE: Local polling places can be found at wheredoivotema.com

CAMPAIGN RESOURCES

Paul Feeney votefeeney.com

Edward "Ted" Philips tedphilips.org

AVAILABLE ON THE WEB:

PROGRESSIVEMASS.COM/2017ELECTIONS

PLEASE DISTRIBUTE WITH ATTRIBUTION.

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Introduction

Progressive Mass & Endorsements

Progressive Massachusetts is a statewide, grassroots organization committed to working toward shared prosperity, racial and social justice, good government and strong democracy, and sustainable infrastructure and environmental protection. It was founded by local organizers to move forward progressive values and issues in Massachusetts. We work on legislative, issue, and electoral campaigns.

Advancing a progressive agenda in Massachusetts requires electing legislators who share--and will fight for--our values, and then holding them accountable.

Membership

One of the benefits of being a dues-paying member of Progressive Massachusetts is participation in our endorsement votes for key elections. This is one of the very direct ways that our members shape the future direction of progressive policymaking in the state.

Not yet a member? Join! ProgressiveMass.com/membership

Endorsement Process

Progressive Massachusetts sends candidates this detailed policy questionnaire, revised periodically by the Elections & Endorsements Committee (EEC). The EEC carefully reviews the questionnaire responses, assesses and discusses the field, and then makes a recommendation to voting members. However, the decision belongs to our members.

In each race, members choose among the **candidates**, as well as the options of “**no endorsement**” or **abstention**. Candidates who receive at least 60% of all ballots submitted will be endorsed by Progressive Massachusetts. If no candidate in a race reaches the 60% threshold, we will not endorse.

Context and Materials for the Progressive Voter

All questionnaires are available on our website for all, as a public service, regardless of endorsement outcome. We invite voters to share our materials, with attribution, and help push all candidates and campaigns towards substantive engagement with important progressive issues.

We encourage progressives to use our **Progressive Platform**, **Legislative Agenda**, **Scorecards**, and other materials to help in their research before election day. All are found on our website: progressivemass.com

Sources

Each section features a chart or graph that illustrates one facet of the issue under discussion and is not intended to be comprehensive. All images and data are from Massachusetts Budget and Policy Center (massbudget.org) unless otherwise specified.

I. About the Candidates

A. Paul Feeney



Website: votefeeney.com

Twitter: [@PaulieFeeney](https://twitter.com/PaulieFeeney)

Facebook: [/PaulFeeneyforStateSenate](https://www.facebook.com/PaulFeeneyforStateSenate)

1. *Why are you running for office? And what will your top 3 priorities be if elected?*

Having spent the last 20 years working predominantly in the private sector, along with gaining experience in Local and State Government, I understand the struggle of families that are working harder than ever, seniors who are on a fixed income, and young men and women that are struggling with student debt and searching for work. My top priorities if elected would be Jobs and the Economy, Education, and Healthcare.

I am deeply committed to sticking up for the families of the Bristol & Norfolk district and feel that there is too much at stake for me to sit on the sidelines. I am passionate about the values that are important to this district and will be beholden only to them, not other legislators or the political establishment.

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

I served as the first Chief of Staff to State Senator James Timilty in 2005. This experience gives me a clear understanding of the communities in the district as well as experience in the legislative process and in building partnerships to be an effective legislator.

I am the Legislative Director of IBEW Local 2222 and have been involved in advocating on Beacon Hill on behalf of workers, consumers, and municipalities.

Additionally, I have served as a Selectman in the town of Foxborough as well as Chairman of that board from 2007 to 2010

Most recently, I was the State Director in both Massachusetts and Connecticut for US Senator Bernie Sanders's campaign for the Presidency in 2016.

I served most recently as a Co-Chair of the Massachusetts Democratic Platform committee. This experience afforded me the opportunity to listen to and meet with citizens throughout the Commonwealth as we drafted a truly progressive platform.

I. About the Candidates

B. Edward "Ted" Philips



Website: tedphilips.org

Twitter: [@TedPhilips](https://twitter.com/TedPhilips) **Facebook:** [/TedforSenate](https://www.facebook.com/TedforSenate)

1. *Why are you running for office? And what will your top 3 priorities be if elected?*

I believe that I can make a positive difference for the residents of the Bristol & Norfolk. If elected, I intend to make a difference at reforming our education system, curbing the opioid epidemic, and fixing our transportation infrastructure.

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

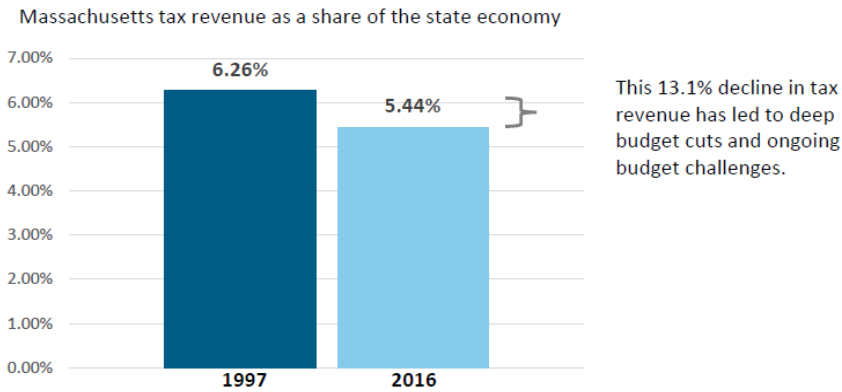
My background with eleven years of working in the State House, combined with ten years on the Sharon Finance Committee, makes me the candidate who best understands the nature of the relationship between state and local government and how best to strengthen it.

II. Policy & Platform

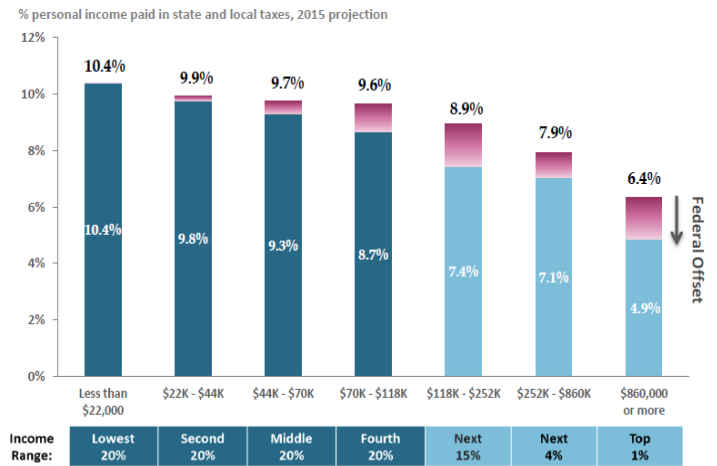
A. REVENUE AND TAXATION

Despite the label of “Taxachusetts,” Massachusetts ranks 22nd among states in terms of state and local taxes as a share of total personal income and below the national average. Between 1977 and 2012, Massachusetts reduced state taxes by more than all but one other state. Because of income tax cuts enacted between 1998 and 2002, Massachusetts is losing over \$3 billion in tax revenue each year. Such cuts to the state income tax have meant increasing reliance on fees, as well as sales, gas, and property taxes, exacerbating the overall regressivity of the system. Regressive taxation strains low- and middle-income families, and reduced revenue collection curtails our ability to invest in vital infrastructure. It also restricts legislators’ ability to pass new and visionary legislation, as there is a continual shortage of funds for existing priorities.

Declining revenues have meant drastic cuts, limiting our ability to invest in our communities and future economic stability.



Massachusetts state and local taxes are regressive.



* Percentages shown inside bar are net effective tax levels after factoring in federal offset. Percentages above bars show tax levels before federal offset.
Source: Institute for Taxation and Economic Policy.

Candidate Overview & Experience: Revenue and Taxation

1. *What principles do you bring to considerations of state revenue and tax reform (individual and corporate)? How should we raise more revenue to adequately fund our communities for the future?*

FEENEY: The state needs to raise revenue through a combination of raising taxes on its highest earners and closing corporate tax loopholes. We cannot continue to balance the budget through cuts and on the backs of the working-class, poor, and vulnerable.

PHILIPS: I personally favor a progressive tax structure. If Iowa and South Carolina can do it, we can too.

2. *Optional/As Applicable: Please indicate work you personally have done to advance your principles on revenue and taxation (legislation, community work, published writings, etc.).*

FEENEY: (no response)

PHILIPS: As a member of the Sharon Finance Committee, I have advocated for making sure our town provides top-quality services to taxpayers regardless of costs. I have supported debt exclusions for both our schools and public safety capital improvements, and have been the member to write the recommendation on behalf of the committee that goes in the town warrant.

Policy Questions: Revenue and Taxation

3. **Progressive Taxation.** *Progressive Massachusetts grassroots members are working on a constitutional amendment to increase the income tax on income over \$1 million by 4%. Would you support or oppose this effort (the Fair Share Amendment)?*

FEENEY: Support. I support the fair share amendment and have spoken publicly as a candidate and prior to being a candidate about the importance of passing this initiative.

PHILIPS: Support.

4. **Sales Tax Holiday.** *It has been demonstrated over and over that the annual sales tax holiday does not serve its intended purpose of increasing sales, but rather just shifts sales to the weekend of the holiday. Would you support or oppose efforts to extend the sales tax holiday?*

FEENEY: Support. I am generally supportive of the Sales Tax Holiday but am open to data from all stakeholders regarding this issue.

PHILIPS: Support. I completely agree with the above statement, but there is a psychological effect that drives people out to stores for the weekend and retailers support it. I don't have a problem extending it; we have bigger issues to deal with.

5. **Corporate Tax Incentives.** *Would you support or oppose legislation to impose greater accountability on corporate tax incentives (such as through automatic five-year sunsets or revocation of incentives that do not meet promised job, wage, and benefit standards)?*

FEENEY: Support. I would support greater accountability and oversight. Job creation is a significant benefit of many tax incentives and is important to my district and the Commonwealth. I do not believe in corporate giveaways without significant job creation that meets community, wage, and benefit standards.

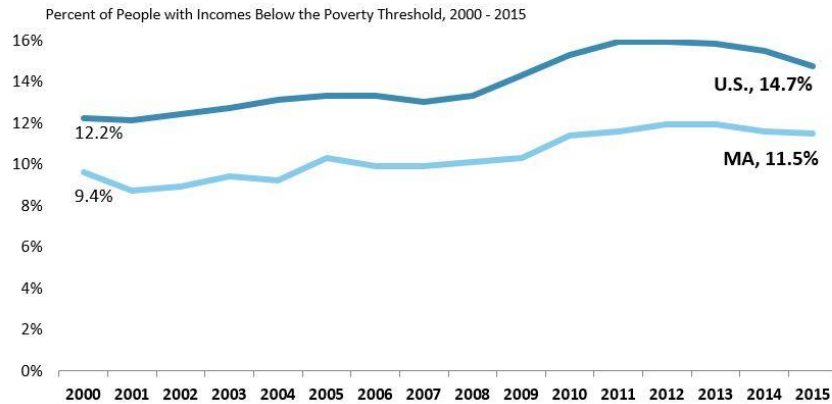
PHILIPS: Support.

B. JOB GROWTH & THE ECONOMY

The Massachusetts economy has continued to grow and recover from the Great Recession, but the gains have not been shared equally. Poverty levels continue to increase, while the minimum wage loses value every year. Massachusetts now ranks as one of the top ten most unequal states according to various measures of income inequality.

Poverty has been on the rise over the past decade.

MA and U.S. Poverty Rates Remain Elevated Despite Years of Recovery

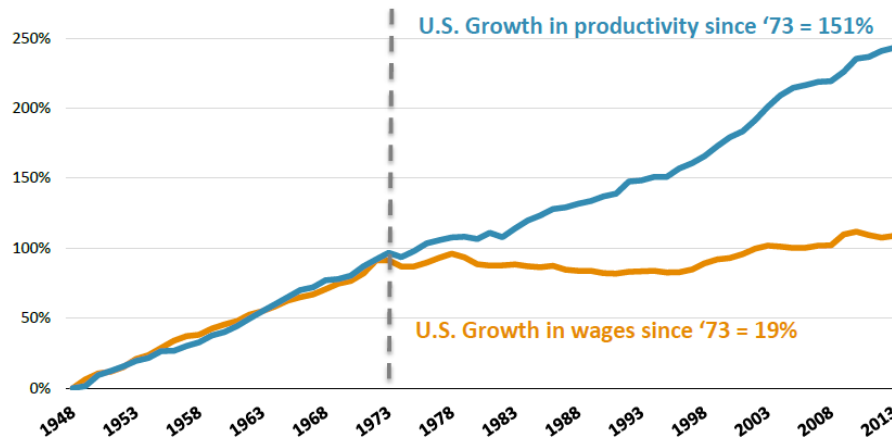


Source: U.S. Census, American Community Survey

Productivity has grown significantly since the 1970s, but it is not being reflected in higher wages.

Growing Wage and Productivity Gap is Our Central Economic Challenge

Cumulative percent change since 1973



Source: Economic Policy Institute analysis of unpublished Total Economy Productivity data from Bureau of Labor Statistics' Labor Productivity and Costs program, wage data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Current Employment Statistics, Bureau of Labor Statistics' Employment Cost Trends data, and the Bureau of Economic Analysis' National Income and Product Accounts

Candidate Overview & Experience: Job Growth & the Economy

1. Share your personal values and principles on job growth and the economy. How can we improve the economy and economic security for all people? How do we grow the number of good-paying jobs in the Commonwealth? How do you view wealth and income inequality, and what would you do about it, if anything?

FEENEY: We need to be smart about incentivizing small business through State grants and programs to innovate in the Bristol / Norfolk and build their business with local workers. Our region is very attractive to business, but we have a lot of work to do to in making sure that the State invests in transportation upgrades, broadband accessibility and smart development throughout the district. Additionally, I would like to see us refocus on the need for trade school programs as well as a curriculum that trains future workers in the field of renewable energy and high-tech sectors.

PHILIPS: Income inequality is a real problem that is choking the middle class out of existence. I favor increasing the minimum wage, among other efforts, to grow the middle class.

2. *As Applicable: Indicate work you personally have done to advance your principles on these topics.*

FEENEY: I have fought at my place of employment to protect good paying jobs and have supported other workers in their fight to improve their wages and benefits, to enter the Middle Class. Additionally, I have testified in the State House on a number of working and job related issues in my capacity as IBEW 2222 Legislative Director.

PHILIPS: (no response)

Policy Questions: Job Growth & the Economy

3. *Minimum wage. Would you support or oppose raising the minimum wage to \$15 an hour?*

FEENEY: Support. I support a \$15/hour minimum wage

PHILIPS: Support.

a. Tipped Minimum Wage. And making the tipped minimum wage equal to that of the regular minimum wage?

FEENEY: Support.

PHILIPS: Oppose. My wife is a part-time waitress; I don't believe that good servers would make as much if the tipped minimum wage matched the regular minimum wage.

b. Indexing the Minimum Wage. And indexing the minimum wage to inflation?

FEENEY: Support.

PHILIPS: Support.

4. *Paid Family and Medical Leave. Would you support or oppose efforts to mandate access for up to 12 weeks of Paid Family and Medical Leave?*

FEENEY: Support.

PHILIPS: Support.

5. *Wage Theft. Would you support or oppose legislation to hold businesses responsible for the wage violations of their subcontractors when the work they do is substantially connected to the company's operations?*

FEENEY: Support.

PHILIPS: Support.

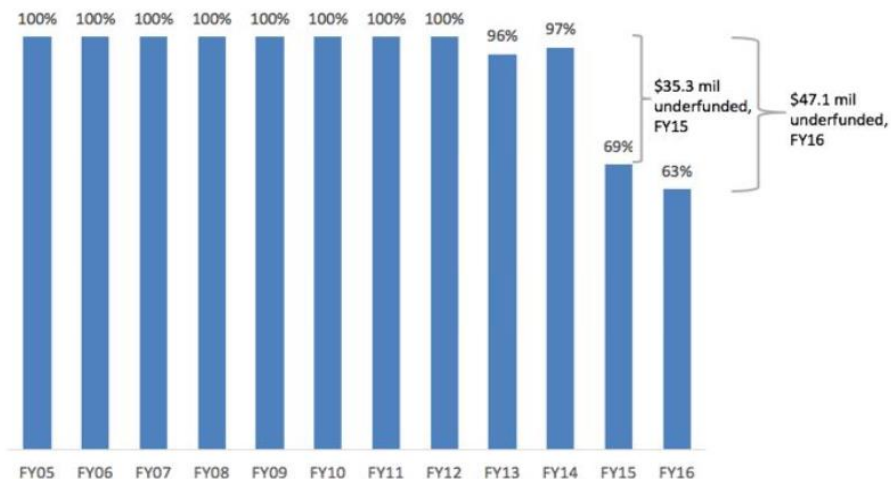
C. EDUCATION

Public education has always been a gateway to opportunity and mobility for all, regardless of economic circumstances, a cornerstone of the American dream for all residents. The mission of public schools is to serve all students, including English Language Learners and those with special needs. However, powerful corporate interests are working to undermine public schools, teachers, and unions. These groups are investing millions of dollars to promote the expansion of privately run charter schools, which siphon money from our public K-12 districts while largely excluding students with the greatest needs. Various forms of privatization are being proposed and implemented, including charter schools and “turnaround” schemes that put private management groups in charge of struggling public schools. Costly, mandated standardized test results are used to justify these privatization schemes. Finally, the soaring price of higher education over the last several decades has made access to this opportunity increasingly out of reach, at the very moment when higher education makes a greater difference to one’s economic future.

The state hasn’t been living up to its responsibility to fully fund our public schools.

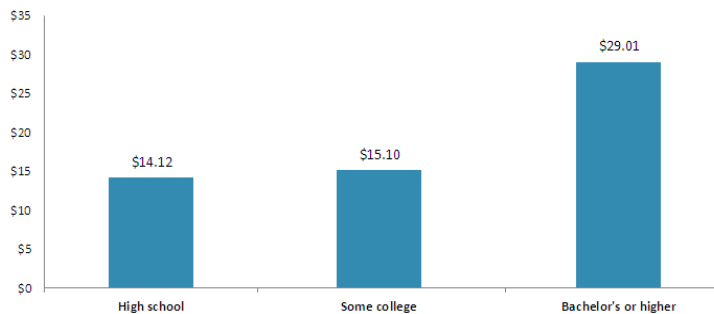
The State Has Not Fully Funded Charter Reimbursements in Recent Years

Percent of charter school reimbursements paid to sending districts, based on reimbursement formula



Higher educational attainment leads to higher wages.

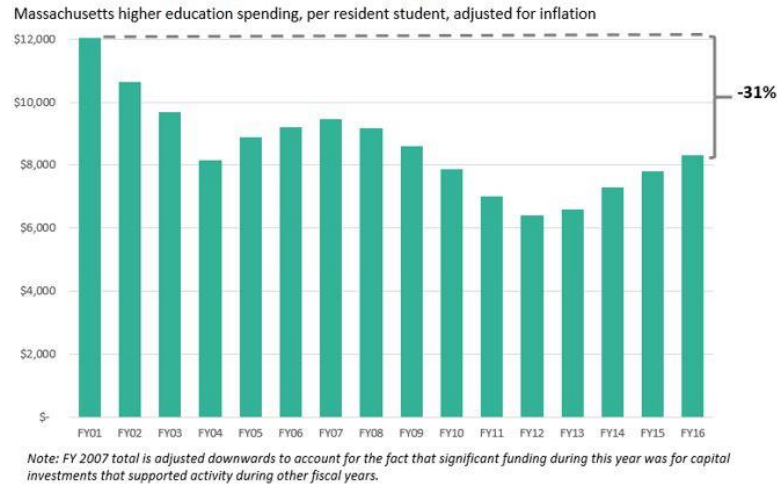
Median Hourly Wage in Massachusetts by Educational Level, 2011



Source: Economic Policy Institute analysis of Current Population Survey data

Massachusetts has been disinvesting from higher education and shifting the cost burden onto students.

Per Student, Higher Ed. Cut by 31 Percent Since FY 2001



Candidate Overview & Experience: Education

1. Please share your personal values and principles regarding public education. What value does public education have in improving our economy as well as in addressing matters of economic justice? How can we close persistent achievement gaps? What measures should MA take on these issues?

FEENEY: The public schools of Massachusetts are widely regarded as the top in the Nation. We must do more however. We must fully fund our schools and ensure that our Foundation Budget is accurate and fair. We should be empowering our teachers to educate the whole student and not simply teach to the test. Quality public education is a core tenet that is not separate from economic or racial justice. I believe in a level playing field that curtails the school-to-prison pipeline and offers opportunity to all students regardless of socio-economic status or race. Achievement gaps are due to many factors and a one-size-fits-all solution does not exist. Ensuring a fully funded school district that has adequate staffing and resources is vital.

PHILIPS: I'm the son of a 41-year schoolteacher and the product of an excellent public school education. Education is the silver bullet in providing opportunities for our kids to be successful in life and in business; we haven't made significant reforms to our system since 1993, and that needs to change. We need to change the Chapter 70 funding formula, remove high-stakes testing, and rethink the role of charter schools in our system.

2. As Applicable: Indicate work you personally have done to advance your principles on public education.

FEENEY: As Legislative Director of IBEW 2222, I have worked closely with public educators to fight for public education. I was very active in educating workers throughout my membership about the need to vote NO on the 2016 charter school ballot initiative.

PHILIPS: I took part in the No on 2 campaign, and have supported education budgets in Sharon on the Finance Committee.

Policy Questions: Education

3. **Universal Pre-K.** *Would you support or oppose creating universal, free Pre-K, accessible to any resident of Massachusetts, integrated into the public school system?*

FEENEY: Support.

PHILIPS: Support.

4. **Standardized Testing.** *Would you support or oppose the use of high-stakes testing for such things as student promotion, high school graduation, teacher evaluation, and the evaluation of schools and districts?*

FEENEY: Oppose. I oppose high-stakes testing, its punitive nature, and the use of it as an exit requirement.

PHILIPS: Oppose.

5. **Funding Structure.** *Would you support or oppose changes to the Chapter 70 Education formula, including the Foundation Budget, to incorporate proper state funding for ELL students, Special Education students, transportation costs, charter school reimbursements to sending schools, and class size reduction?*

FEENEY: Support. I support updating changing the Chapter 70 formula so that it works for ALL districts. We are severely underfunding our public schools according to a 2015 commission report and must ensure that funding reflects need for our public schools.

PHILIPS: Support.

6. **Charter Schools.** *In Nov. 2016, MA voters overwhelmingly rejected a ballot initiative to lift the cap on charter schools given the millions of dollars it would have siphoned away from public schools.*

- a. *Would you support or oppose keeping the cap on charter schools?*

FEENEY: Support. I support the cap.

PHILIPS: Support.

- b. *Would you support or oppose legislation to bring greater accountability and transparency to charter schools, such as by requiring them to adhere to the same disclosure and disciplinary standards as public school districts?*

FEENEY: Support. I would support this legislation and feel we must return to the purpose for which charter schools were initially instituted. Charter schools require greater accountability so that they can assist in improving our public schools as opposed to being a drain on vital resources.

Philips: Support.

7. **Higher Education Access.** *Would you support or oppose legislation to grant in-state tuition and financial aid to undocumented students?*

FEENEY: Support.

PHILIPS: Support.

8. **Tuition-Free Higher Education.** *Would you support or oppose making tuition free at public colleges and universities?*

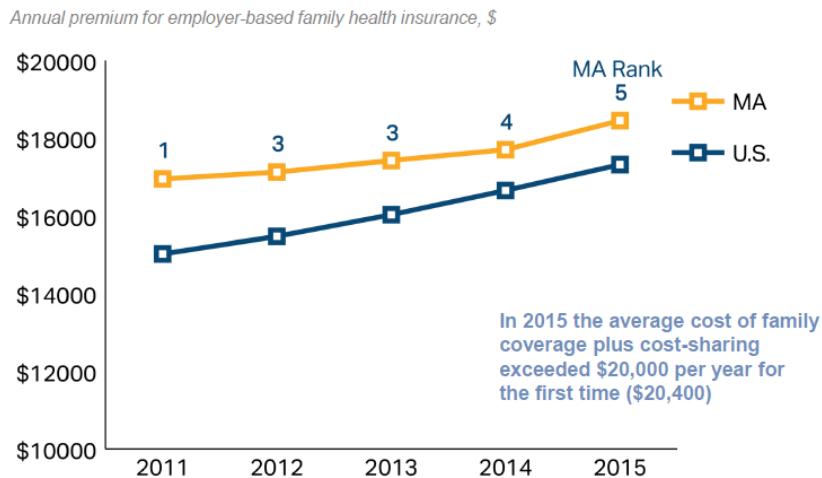
FEENEY: Support.

PHILIPS: Support. To be fair, tuition is now just a small piece of the cost of college. It's a great first step, but we need to address some of the other cost drivers too.

D. HEALTH CARE

Massachusetts has led the way in providing near universal health insurance coverage, with 97% of the state having health insurance. But there is still work to do. Significant disparities in health insurance coverage and health care access continue to exist along income, racial, and education lines. Premiums continue to rise, and medical debt remains a persistent problem. We still spend an oversized portion of public and private money on health care, but without necessarily achieving better health outcomes.

MA has among the highest health insurance premiums in the country.



Source: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Medical Expenditure Panel Survey, Insurance Component

Candidate Overview & Experience: Healthcare

1. Please share your personal values and principles regarding health care insurance, delivery, and outcomes.

FEENEY: It is unconscionable that we cannot provide guaranteed and affordable healthcare to every man woman and child in the richest country in the history of civilization. I believe the system is fundamentally broken and driven by for-profit insurers and pharmaceutical companies. I believe that Massachusetts should lead the way and adopt a single payer, universal healthcare system that provides healthcare for all.

PHILIPS: (no response)

2. As Applicable: Indicate work you personally have done to advance your principles on these topics.

FEENEY: I have worked with and supported nurses in their attempts to mandate safe staffing levels to improve patient care.

PHILIPS: (no response)

Policy Questions: Healthcare

3. **Single Payer.** *Would you support or oppose legislation to enact a single payer health care system in Massachusetts?*

FEENEY: Support. I support single payer healthcare in Massachusetts. I am proud to have received the endorsement of MassCare.

PHILIPS: Oppose. The examples of Vermont and California are instructive here: the shift to single payer needs to be made at the national, rather than state, level for the reform to work. I support the concept of single-payer, but with a federal health care bill that could blow an \$8 billion hole in the Commonwealth's budget, my efforts will be focused on maintaining our near-universal rate of coverage while bringing other costs down in Massachusetts.

4. **Reproductive Rights.** *Would you support or oppose legislation to guarantee women access to abortion care without dangerous delay, isolation, and obstruction?*

FEENEY: Support. I support women's reproductive rights and would support and fight for legislation that protects these rights.

PHILIPS: Support.

5. **Birth Control.** *Would you support or oppose legislation to guarantee access to birth control without copay?*

FEENEY: Support. I would support guaranteed access to birth control.

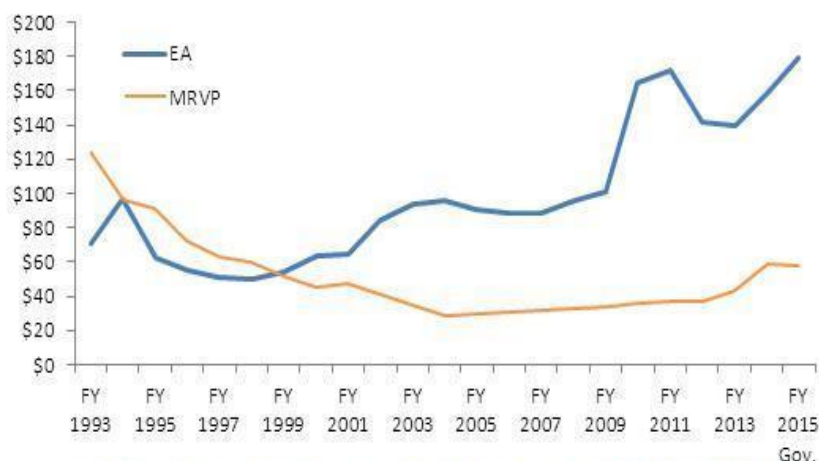
PHILIPS: Support.

E. HOUSING

Over the last ten years, the need for affordable housing has increased, while funds for affordable housing have decreased at both federal and state levels. Currently, there is a waiting list of up to ten years for a rental voucher, and the fair market rent for a two-bedroom apartment requires a wage 40% higher than the average renter wage. Half of families in Greater Boston alone pay over 30% of their income in housing and utilities costs—and over 25% of households pay more than half their income to housing. This is unsustainable. It has led to expanding economic inequality, increased homelessness, and damage to our economy, as talented workers often leave the state for less expensive regions.

Funding for housing vouchers has fallen-- costs for shelter has increased

(inflation adjusted to 2014 dollars)



Funding for Shelter (EA) and MRVP has moved around since FY 1993. This chart includes funding from the following line items for MRVP: 3222-9024, 3722-9024 & 7004-9024. Line items for EA include: 4403-2100, 4403-2120, 4403-2130, 7004-0101 & 7004-0103.

Candidate Overview & Experience: Housing

1. Please share your personal values and principles regarding affordable housing. How would you ensure that there is suitable housing for all who need it, within reasonable distance of job opportunities? How would you address the need to link housing, jobs, and transportation? How would you tackle homelessness?

FEENEY: We must work at the local level to improve Chapter 40B planning, ensuring that an area possesses adequate resources to support new development. Transit-oriented development is a vital piece to the master plan of most communities and should be incentivized.

PHILIPS: This is one of the hardest challenges we face. I'm not an expert in this field, but more must be done to increase our affordable housing stock so that people can afford to live and work wherever they want in Massachusetts.

2. As Applicable: Indicate work you personally have done to advance your principles on these topics.

FEENEY: While on the Foxborough Board of Selectmen, I led efforts to implement rent control for residents of a mobile home park in our community.

PHILIPS: (no response)

Policy Questions: Housing

3. **Housing programs.** *Would you support or oppose legislation to increase funding for affordable housing production (especially low-income housing units) and the Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program?*

FEENEY: Support.

PHILIPS: Support.

4. **Zoning Reform.** *Would you support or oppose legislation to upgrade Massachusetts's zoning laws to encourage more affordable housing and transit-oriented, walkable development and to promote inclusionary zoning practices?*

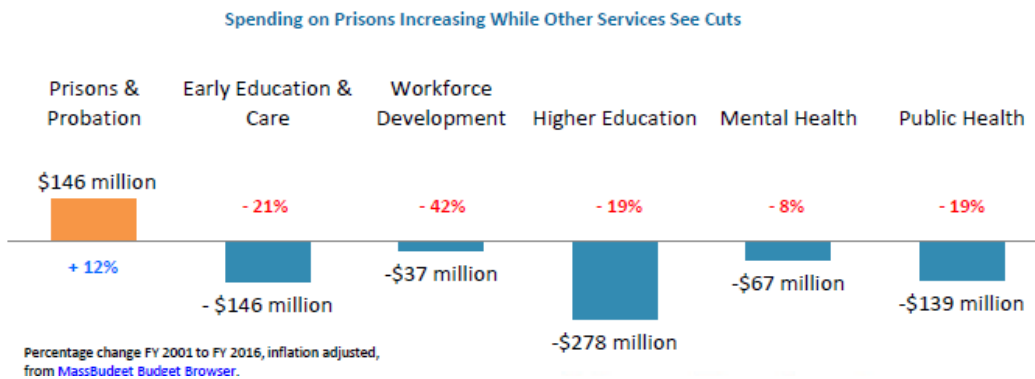
FEENEY: Support.

PHILIPS: Support.

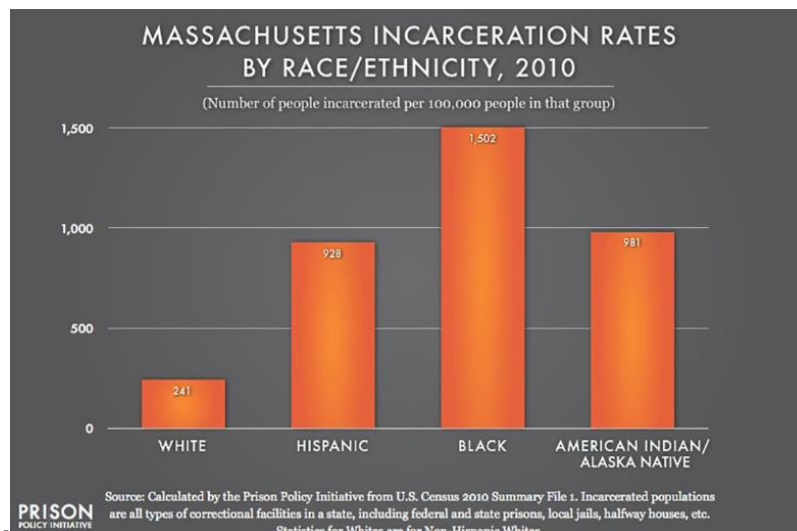
F. RACIAL AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

Massachusetts must continue to strive to be a state that welcomes and embraces all of its residents and combats prejudice and discrimination of all kinds. The social and economic costs of mass incarceration and the policies that created it, in particular, have put our aspirations of “justice for all” into crisis. We support a judicial system that does not disproportionately target communities of color and the poor, that does not criminalize public health issues such as addiction, that reorients away from ineffective and costly ‘tough on crime’ policies. A comprehensive approach to reform must be taken in all aspects of the criminal justice system.

Spending on prisons has increased while other services have been cut.



Significant racial disparities exist in incarceration in Massachusetts



Candidate Overview & Experience: Racial & Social Justice

1. Please share your personal values and principles regarding Racial and Social Justice.

FEENEY: I come from a place of privilege, that has given me opportunities unavailable to others. I will fight to make our state and district a place in which every single person has opportunity for upward mobility and a path to economic security. Additionally, we must take the lead as a Commonwealth to fight back against an administration that seeks to divide the people, by uniting together and standing

up for each other. I will support legislation that requires regulators and other agencies to stay vigilant against attempts to marginalized people.

PHILIPS: Your background or skin color should have nothing to do with your equal access to opportunities or rights in Massachusetts. Ever.

2. *As Applicable. Please indicate work you personally have done to combat racism, Islamophobia, xenophobia, homophobia, transphobia, and other attempts to marginalize disadvantaged groups.*

FEENEY: (no response)

PHILIPS: My hometown of Sharon is incredibly diverse. I've proudly participated in multiple community events in support of our diversity, most recently co-chairing the Taste of Sharon's Diversity event for our yearlong Sharon Celebrates Diversity initiative.

Policy Questions: Racial and Social Justice

3. ***Trans Accommodations.** In 2016, Massachusetts passed legislation to prevent discrimination against transgender individuals in public accommodations. Would you support or oppose the 2018 ballot question to repeal this law?*

FEENEY: Oppose. I would oppose this ballot question.

PHILIPS: Oppose. I view these as civil rights, and know that the Attorney General tried everything she could to keep this question from moving to the ballot; since she was unable to block it legally, we'll block it at the ballot box.

4. ***Sentencing Reform.** Which of these four steps to combat mass incarceration in the Commonwealth do you support? (1) eliminate minimum mandatory sentencing, (2) increase felony threshold, (3) reduce/eliminate fines/fees, (4) invest in re-entry programs)*

FEENEY: SUPPORTS (1) Eliminating mandatory minimum sentences related to drug offenses, **(2)** Raising the felony threshold for theft from \$250 to \$1500, **(3)** Eliminating or reducing fees and fines that hinder reentry efforts and turn jails into debtors' prisons, **(4)** Increasing investment in education and job training programs for the formerly incarcerated.

PHILIPS: SUPPORTS (2) Raising the felony threshold for theft from \$250 to \$1500, **(3)** Eliminating or reducing fees and fines that hinder reentry efforts and turn jails into debtors' prisons, **(4)** Increasing investment in education and job training programs for the formerly incarcerated.

5. ***Safe Communities Act.** Would you support or oppose the Safe Communities Act, which prohibits the use of state resources for mass deportations or deportation raids, limits local and state police collaboration with federal immigration agents, and prohibits state support for a Muslim registry?*

FEENEY: Support. I am supportive of prohibiting the use of state resources for deportation raids and feel that our local and state police should not be collaborating with federal agents to that end. I am opposed to the Muslim registry and feel strongly that the Commonwealth should not be supporting such a measure. I feel it is vital that local law enforcement personnel and other stakeholders be at the table when considering this legislation.

PHILIPS: Support. We need more public support from law enforcement in order to get this passed—they're a key stakeholder that needs to come on board first.

6. **Safe Driving Act.** *Would you support or oppose the Safe Driving Act, which would remove immigration status as a barrier to applying for a license or learner's permit?*

FEENEY: Support.

PHILIPS: Support.

7. **Marijuana legalization.** *Last November, Massachusetts voters passed Question 4, a ballot initiative to legalize recreational marijuana and regulate it akin to alcohol. However, many legislators are already keen on rolling back the will of the voters. Would you support or oppose the implementation of Question 4, with additional steps to increase equity (such as by expunging the records of those arrested for things that would now be legal)?*

FEENEY: Support.

PHILIPS: Support. The voters have expressed their support for recreational marijuana, but changes need to be made to the ballot question before implementation. I'm confident the House and Senate will come up with a reasonable compromise.

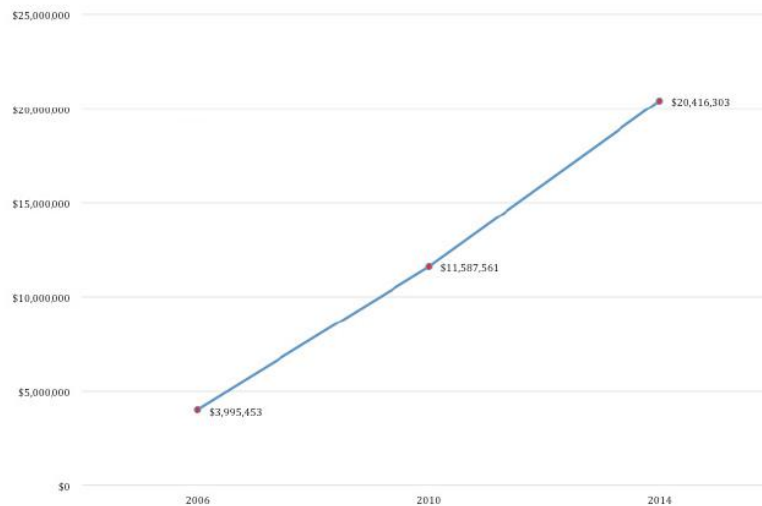
G. GOOD GOVERNMENT/ STRONG DEMOCRACY



The influence of big money in politics is detrimental to democracy. Independent expenditures in MA elections have grown by a factor of five over the past decade. A centralized power structure on Beacon Hill, is undemocratic, and makes it easier for lobbyists to target the top and undermine the system. A strong democracy requires an engaged electorate, but voter turnout in midterm elections, and especially local elections, remains low. Myths about voter fraud are peddled in order to justify voter suppression. The Election Modernization Act of 2014 helped eliminate Massachusetts's embarrassing status as one of the ten worst states in terms of voting rights, but there is still much work to be done.

Independent expenditures in MA elections have risen rapidly. (Source: [Common Cause](#))

Figure 1: MA Independent Expenditure Totals



Candidate Overview & Experience: Good Government/Strong Democracy

1. Please share your personal values and principles regarding Good Government and Strong Democracy.

FEENEY: I feel strongly that we must elect people that are not afraid to work hard for us and will never waver in their advocacy for the people they represent even if it's not politically expedient. I am fully supportive of measures that increase transparency and make State Government more user-friendly. I think we need to do a better job in registering people to vote and getting them out to vote on election day. I am disappointed in the discourse of those in and around Government lately and believe that elected officials must be respectful of others, open to ideas, and responsive to voters to earn their trust.

PHILIPS: (no response)

2. *As Applicable: Indicate work you personally have done to advance your principles on these topics.*

FEENEY: (no response)

PHILIPS: (no response)

Policy Questions: Good Government/Strong Democracy

3. **Power and the Legislature.** *If elected, would you support or oppose efforts to dilute the amount of power held by leadership in your respective branch of government? For example, would you support a rule change allowing committees to appoint their own chair, instead of leadership?*

FEENEY: Support. I believe the current legislative system is broken and would support empowering committees to do their job. I am generally opposed to top-down leadership in legislative bodies and would work to give more power to members.

PHILIPS: Support. I support the dilution of power, but not committees electing their own chair.

4. **Public campaign financing.** *Would you support or oppose legislation to create a robust public financing system for state elections?*

FEENEY: Support.

PHILIPS: Oppose. It's a really tough call—given the budget problems we're having, it's hard to tell people they should pay for my campaign. Citizens United was a disaster and needs to be overturned so contributions can be limited, but I can't get there on public financing.

5. **Election Day voter registration.** *Would you support or oppose Election Day Registration?*

FEENEY: Support.

PHILIPS: Support.

6. **Automatic voter registration.** *Would you support or oppose automatic voter registration?*

FEENEY: Support.

PHILIPS: Support.

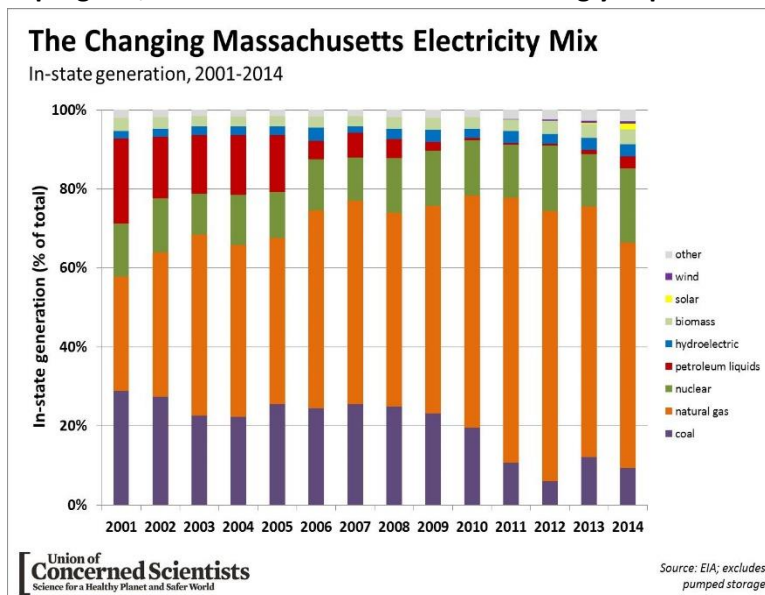
H. SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



Massachusetts will be hit particularly hard by climate change. In order to avoid catastrophic climate change, global carbon emissions need to be reduced by 70% by 2050 and brought to 0 by 2080. Last year, the SJC ruled that the state has failed to meet its legal obligation to set and enforce annual limits on greenhouse gas emissions as outlined in the 2008 Global Warming Solutions Act. Setting and reaching these goals will require the decarbonization of our state economy and a transition away from fossil fuels toward clean, renewable sources of energy. In light of congressional gridlock at the federal level, state government must take a role in incentivizing reduced carbon usage and assisting in coordination between agencies and moving forward local government understanding of looming climate threats.

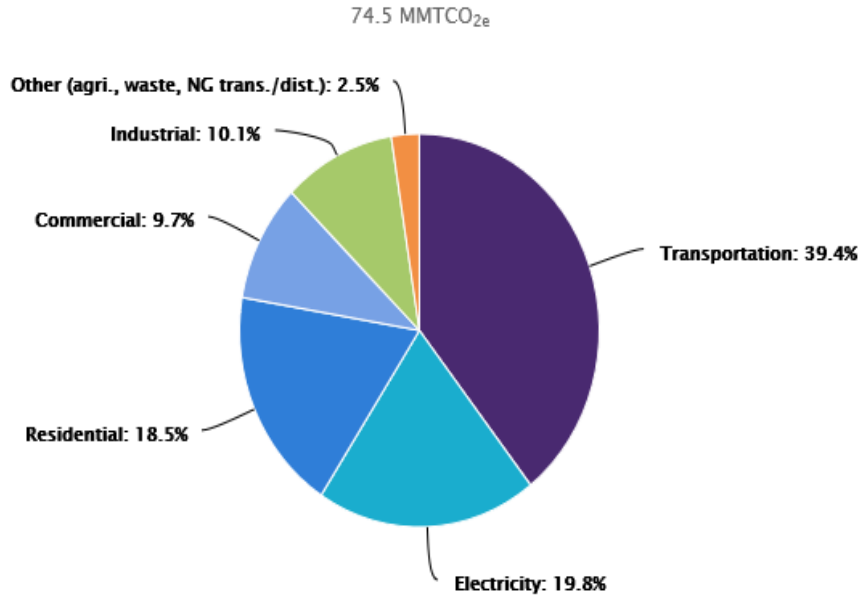
Public transit must play a role in decarbonizing our transportation system, as well as advancing complementary goals of equity and inclusion. However, Massachusetts politicians have lost their understanding of public transit as a public good that benefits all residents and businesses in Massachusetts, not just those who use it in their daily lives. The greatest evidence of this is their neglect of the MBTA: its debt has grown to nearly \$5.5 billion, with over \$7 billion in deferred maintenance costs. Regional Transit Authorities that serve communities, including Gateway Cities across the state, face enormous capital needs as well.

Despite recent progress, Massachusetts is still overwhelmingly dependent on fossil fuels.



Transportation is currently the largest contributor to greenhouse gas emissions in MA.

2014 MA GHG Emissions by Sector



(Source: <http://www.mass.gov>)

Candidate Overview & Experience: Infrastructure and Environment

1. *Please share your personal values and principles regarding Sustainable Infrastructure and Environmental Protection.*

FEENEY: I will always fight for environmental protection measures that keep our communities safe for generations to come. As an adolescent, my family lost our home after discovering our well water was contaminated by a local truck stop. The town’s elected officials would not help us, and the truck stop owners were not held accountable. My parents organized our affected and at-risk neighbors and put pressure on the polluter and the town. This was my political and environmental awakening, and I never want another family go through this experience. Investing in newer, cleaner energy sources is a priority for me as well. From photovoltaic to geothermal, wind, tidal, and other energy sources, Massachusetts should be leading the way in sustainable energy.

PHILIPS: We're a tech hub--we should be leading on green/clean tech!

2. *As Applicable: Indicate work you personally have done to protect the environment and expand access to public transportation.*

FEENEY: I publicly fought against a proposed power generating plant in Walpole while a Selectman in Foxborough.

PHILIPS: (no response)

Policy Questions: Infrastructure and Environment

3. **Solar energy.** *Would you support or oppose efforts to increase equitable access to solar power by removing caps on solar generation and restoring compensation for low-income and community solar?*

FEENEY: Support.

PHILIPS: Support.

4. **Carbon pricing.** *Would you support or oppose legislation to put a fee on carbon emissions?*

FEENEY: Support.

PHILIPS: Support.

- a. *Do you support or oppose using some of the revenue from such a fee to invest in **green infrastructure**?*

FEENEY: Support.

PHILIPS: Support.

5. **Gas pipelines.** *Would you support or oppose the expansion of gas pipelines in the state?*

FEENEY: Oppose.

PHILIPS: Oppose. Strongly opposed. The Attorney General's report made it clear that we don't need it and won't see any benefits from expansion.

6. **Public Transit Funding.** *Would you support or oppose finding progressive revenue sources to fund the maintenance, expansion, and improvement of the MBTA and the RTAs?*

FEENEY: Support.

PHILIPS: This question is a little broad—I am opposed to expansion until we run the service we have efficiently and effectively for an extended period of time.

7. **Regional Transportation Funding.** *Would you support or oppose legislation to allow municipalities to place a question on the ballot to raise revenue for local and regional transportation projects?*

FEENEY: Support.

PHILIPS: Support.

8. **Public Transit Access.** *Would you support or oppose fare increases for MBTA riders?*

FEENEY: Oppose.

PHILIPS: Oppose.

III. Additional Comments

(Optional)

PAUL FEENEY

The cities and towns of the Bristol & Norfolk are all great places to live. I've worked hard my whole life just like the people of this district. I've always fought for our neighborhoods and the people that live and work here even if it was not politically expedient. I will be a Senator that stands up for our communities against a political establishment that is more interested in holding power than serving people. I am a proud Democrat with an independent streak that will always work hard for the people I am elected to represent. There is too much at stake for students, seniors, veterans, and working families of this district to take the same approach we always have. I believe in lifting people up and giving them hope for a better future in which they can provide for the family and retire with dignity.

EDWARD "TED" PHILIPS



PROGRESSIVE MASSACHUSETTS is a grassroots organization and we rely on member and community contributions to fund our work. Support resources such as our comprehensive, substantive candidate questionnaires with your contribution: progressivemass.com/give

All questionnaires are available on our website for all, as a public service, regardless of endorsement outcome. We invite voters to share our materials, with attribution, and help push all candidates and campaigns towards substantive engagement with important progressive issues. We encourage progressives to use our **Progressive Platform**, **Legislative Agenda**, **Scorecards** and other materials to help in their research before election day. **On the web: progressivemass.com**

Election Information

THE BRISTOL & NORFOLK STATE SENATE DISTRICT

The city of Attleboro, ward 3, precinct B, ward 4, precincts A and B, ward 5, precincts A and B, ward 6, precincts A and B, and the towns of Mansfield, Norton, Rehoboth and Seekonk in the county of Bristol; and the towns of Foxborough, Medfield, Sharon, precincts 1, 4 and 5, and Walpole in the county of Norfolk.

SENATOR TIMILTY'S RESIGNATION:

Senator James Timilty resigned from the Bristol & Norfolk Senate Seat to become Norfolk County Treasurer. Sen. J. Timilty was re-elected to his 2-year term in November 2016, and served in the Bristol & Norfolk seat since 2010.

SNAPSHOT: POLITICS OF THE DISTRICT:

2016 Presidential: Clinton 50.5% - Trump 39.6%
2014 Gubernatorial: Baker 59.0% - Coakley 36.7%
2012 Presidential: Obama 50.3% - Romney 48.2%

PROGRESSIVE MASS SCORECARD SEN. J. TIMILTY'S RECORD:

2015-2016: Senator Timilty: **39%**
2013-2014: Senator Timilty: **22%**
2011-2012: Senator Timilty: **38%**

VOTER RESOURCES

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: **September 19, 2017** (Primary) and **October 17, 2017** (Election)
CHECK VOTER STATUS: sec.state.ma.us/voterregistrationsearch/myvoterregstatus.aspx
WHERE TO VOTE: Local polling places can be found at wheredoivotema.com

PROGRESSIVE MASS RESOURCES

BRISTOL & NORFOLK SPECIAL ELECTION MATERIALS: progressivemass.com/2017specialelection-bristolandnorfolk
BRISTOL & NORFOLK QUESTIONNAIRE (THIS DOC): progressivemass.com/questionnaire-pdf (PERMALINK: 2017bristolnorfolk-pdf)

P.M. MEMBER ENDORSE VOTE: progressivemass.com/endorsementvote (MEMBERS ONLY)

BECOME A MEMBER: progressivemass.com/membership HELP BUILD THE INFRASTRUCTURE FOR PROGRESSIVE RESISTANCE

ENDORING VOTE CLOSE: 5PM, JULY 23



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Voter/Member **NOTES**