



DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES FOR
STATE SENATE

FOURTH MIDDLESEX ENDORSEMENT QUESTIONNAIRE

PROGRESSIVEMASS.COM/elections MAY 2017

VOTING INFORMATION

Registered voters in the Fourth Middlesex – consisting of the city of Woburn and the towns of Arlington, Billerica, Burlington and Lexington, precincts 1 and 2 and 4 to 7, inclusive, in the county of Middlesex – vote on the following dates:

Primary Election: June 27, 2017

Special Election: July 25, 2017

Check voter registration: sec.state.ma.us/voterregistrationsearch/myvoterregstatus.aspx

Find polling place: wheredoivotema.com

AVAILABLE ON THE WEB
PROGRESSIVEMASS.COM/2017ELECTIONS

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CAMPAIGN RESOURCES

CINDY FRIEDMAN

Website: cindyforsenate.org

Twitter: [@Cindy4Senate](https://twitter.com/Cindy4Senate) **Facebook:** facebook.com/cindyforsenate

SEAN GARBALLEY

Website: In Formation

Twitter: [@garballeysenate](https://twitter.com/garballeysenate) **Facebook:** facebook.com/seangarballey

MARY ANN STEWART

Website: ElectStewartForSenate.com

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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).

I. About the Candidates

A. Cindy F. Friedman



Website: cindyforsenate.org

Twitter: @Cindy4Senate **Facebook:** /cindyforsenate

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

(Combined Answer to both questions) I have been Sen. Ken Donnelly's Chief of Staff since he was elected senator 9 years ago. Because of the rawness and personal impact of this loss, the idea of jumping so quickly into a contest to replace Ken was daunting. Ultimately, I chose to run because of my intense commitment to our shared vision and values, and to the work Ken allowed me to participate in shaping.

My background as a public school teacher, as a manager in the high-tech industry, as a community activist and parent, and especially as Ken's Chief of Staff, has prepared me to hit the ground running with an understanding of the issues that matter most to Massachusetts, and the experience to make a difference in the Senate. I understand the needs of the people of the 4th Middlesex District and have answered their questions and helped resolve their problems for over 9 years. I worked side by side with Ken to increase access to transportation and support for district schools and local governments. I helped Ken draft and champion legislation to protect workers and their families and ensure a living wage and affordable benefits; to provide homeless children with early access to shelter; to increase access to services for and reduce the criminalization of those suffering from severe and debilitating mental illness and substance use disorders; to reform our criminal justice system; and to increase the availability of workforce training to meet the needs of businesses and increase the economic stability of our residents.

As state Senator, I will continue and expand the important work that we have been doing the past 9 years. My top 3 priorities will be: (1) wage inequality and wage theft; (2) healthcare, with a special focus on mental health and the intersection of mental illness and our criminal justice system; and (3) transportation issues, especially as it relates to housing, the environment and access to jobs.

I. About the Candidates

B. Sean Garballey



Website: In Formation

Twitter: @garballeysenate **Facebook:** /seangarballey

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

Throughout the last nine years of serving the people of the 23rd Middlesex District in the House of Representatives I have been a leader and an independent voice in working to pass progressive legislation. As a member of the State Senate I will work to make a greater impact on progressive legislation in improving the citizens of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. I have many priorities but my top three priorities include:

1.) Improving public transportation in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. As the founder and co-chair of the MBTA Caucus I have been the leading voice in the legislature in working to prevent MBTA service cuts, advocating for progressive and adequate funding, and working to address the debt of the MBTA. As the Chair of the MBTA Caucus I worked to stop service cuts throughout the MBTA region when they were proposed by the administration. I have been one of the main proponents for the Green Line Extension and the North/South Rail Link. The biggest challenge that the MBTA currently faces is that it carries a total of \$5 billion in debt service. Due to this debt the MBTA is the most indebted transit system in the country and over 1/5th of the MBTA's budget is dedicated to paying off the debt each year. This is the reason I filed an act Relative to Contract Assistance For Central Artery Debt of the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority. In order to improve the MBTA we must address the \$5 billion debt and stop "kicking the can down the road."

2.) Safe Communities Act. During my time in the House of Representatives I have worked to pass An Act To Protect the Civil Rights and Safety of All Massachusetts Residents. As a cosponsor of this legislation I look forward to continuing to working towards passing this legislation when I am elected to the State Senate.

3.) Criminal Justice Reform. As the chief sponsor in the House of Representatives of an act Promoting Restorative Justice Practices and the compassionate medical release legislation I have been an active voice in passing comprehensive criminal justice reform. Criminal justice reform has been and continues to be one of my top priorities. When the legislature addresses criminal justice reform this session it must include restorative justice, compassionate medical release, minimum mandatory sentencing reform, pretrial bail reform, and reforming solitary confinement practices in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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

I am the most prepared to serve as the next State Senator for the 4th Middlesex District because of my nine years of service as a member of the Massachusetts House of Representatives and because of my service on the Arlington School Committee. During my time in the House of Representatives I have been one of the most independent and progressive legislators.

I. About the Candidates

C. Mary Ann Stewart



Website: ElectStewartForSenate.com

Twitter: @MAStewartMA **Facebook:** /MaryAnnforSenate

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

I'm running because I believe state government needs leadership that listens and is responsive to the people who elected them. If elected, my top 3 priorities will be: 1). Climate change and jobs for the green economy because it's time for a reasonable energy policy that supports technological innovation that creates green energy jobs and protects the environment. 2). Revenue and addressing growing inequality because we need solutions to increase revenue and shift the tax burden to make it more equitable, and update the funding formula for public education. 3). Paid family and medical leave because no one should have to choose between their job and caring for a loved one.

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

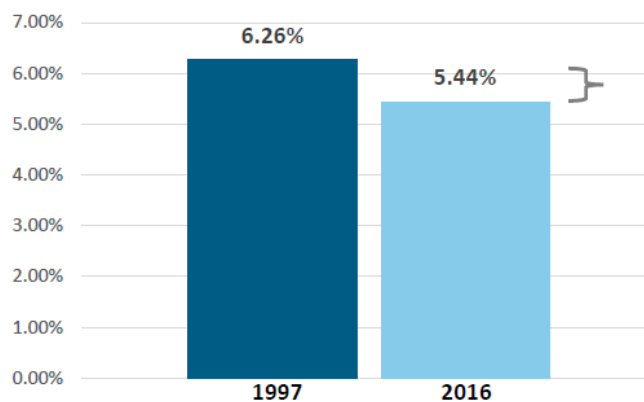
I have years and years of community advocacy and leadership in the things that are most important to our families: the economy, tax reform, and education. I'm a shoe-leather activist. I've worked on every ballot initiative on education or revenue over the last ten years to support working families and ensure equitable access to quality public school education. I personally collected more than 500 signatures to put the minimum wage and guaranteed earned sick leave initiative on the ballot in 2014. I'll bring that activist spirit to the Statehouse to address solutions that support working families and ensure access to opportunity for all in Massachusetts.

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.

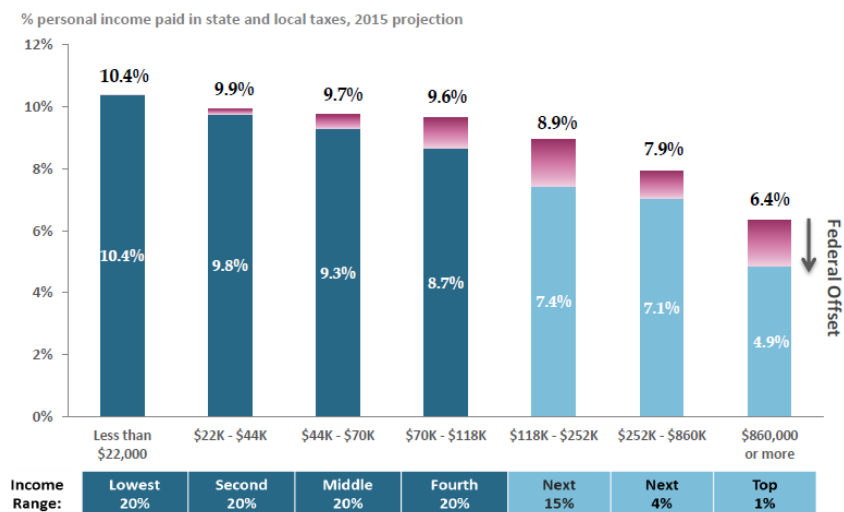
Declining revenues have meant drastic cuts, limiting our ability to invest in our communities and future economic stability.

Massachusetts tax revenue as a share of the state economy



This 13.1% decline in tax revenue has led to deep budget cuts and ongoing budget challenges.

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.

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?*

FRIEDMAN: I believe that people should pay their fair share, that the system should not place the largest burden on those who are least able to pay, and that any tax exemptions provided for corporations and businesses should have clear and measurable benefits for workers and residents of the state and should be reviewed on a yearly basis.

GARBALLEY: It is absolutely essential that the expenditure budget is constantly analyzed to make sure that the Commonwealth's spending matches our common priorities. Corporate tax breaks were established decades ago with returned promises of job creation that have not been realized. The individual tax cuts from the 1990's created major revenue shortfalls and important services were eliminated. We must reevaluate the tax cuts that were implemented in the 1990's.

STEWART: I agree with US Supreme Court Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr when he said, "Taxes are the price we pay for a civilized society". Our current tax system isn't generating enough revenue to support programs and services that we rely on most, such as education, transportation, and infrastructure. On top of that, state and local taxes increasingly fall to those who can least afford to pay. I will continue to work for options to increase revenue and shift the tax burden to make it more fair. Regarding corporate taxes, I believe there are too many loopholes for large corporations to leverage to lower their taxes. Small businesses are the backbone of our economy and we need to help them thrive, rather than continue giving large corporations unfair advantages.

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

FRIEDMAN: On behalf of Sen. Donnelly, I worked with SEIU to draft and file the Educational Opportunity For All bill, which would place a 2.5% tax on endowments at private universities that are over \$1 billion. All monies collected would be used exclusively for the purposes of subsidizing the cost of higher education, early education and childcare for lower-income and middle-class residents.

GARBALLEY: As a member of the House of Representatives and as a member of the progressive caucus I have led the effort to pass the Fair Share Amendment. I have been an active voice in the legislature for addressing individual and corporate tax reform. I was one of the few Democrats in the House of Representatives who stood with Governor Patrick and voted against the proposal by legislative leadership because it was regressive and inadequate in addressing our transportation and educational needs.

STEWART: In 2008 and 2009 I worked as part of the Revenue Options Working Group in Progressive Dems of Mass (PDM) in opposition to the ballot question to eliminate the income tax. I worked with our group to research the issue and to develop messaging, including a one-pager which was distributed to activists across the Commonwealth.

I'm also proud of the key role I've played as one of the original 10 signers of the Fair Share Amendment petition submitted to our Attorney General before being approved and sent to the citizenry for

signatures. I have submitted testimony and written letters to legislators in support of this amendment and authored an OpEd published in CommonWealth Magazine this past April: <https://commonwealthmagazine.org/opinion/correspondence-spring-2017/>. You may also refer to my blog for the article: <https://mastewartma.blogspot.com/p/public-testimony-letters.html>

2. **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)?*

FRIEDMAN: Support. I fully support the Fair Share Amendment to our state constitution because it would create a more equitable tax system and generate an estimated \$2 billion per year for investments in our education and transportation systems. I believe it's very reasonable to ask that the highest earners in our Commonwealth who make more than \$1 million per year pay their fair share of taxes.

GARBALLEY: Support. I organized my colleagues in the House of Representatives to pass the Fair Share Amendment. I proudly voted in favor of the Fair Share Amendment last session.

STEWART: Support. I have supported this amendment since its beginning, as indicated above, and plan to do everything in my power to secure the amendment's passage, whether as a state Senator or as a private citizen.

3. **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?*

FRIEDMAN: Oppose. I oppose the sales tax holiday.

GARBALLEY: Oppose.

STEWART: Oppose. I oppose efforts to extend the sales tax holiday and would consider supporting any efforts to eliminate it completely.

4. **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)?*

FRIEDMAN: Since 1996, the cost of special business tax breaks has ballooned from \$370 million to over \$1 billion annually. Not only do we need more transparency and accountability with regard to these corporate tax breaks, but we also have a responsibility to study the efficacy of these tax breaks and eliminate those that are not achieving their intended goals. There are a variety of corporate tax credits and other expenditures in our state tax code that need to be re-evaluated and, at the very least, revised to ensure that they adhere to the recommendations of the 2012 Tax Expenditure Commission study. While there are some that are beneficial to the Commonwealth and its residents, there are countless others that are ineffective, expensive and create an unfair playing field for certain sectors of our

economy. Any tax revenue that is recovered from the re-evaluation or total elimination of ineffective tax breaks could then be directed to programs that help the Commonwealth's most vulnerable residents.

GARBALLEY: Support.

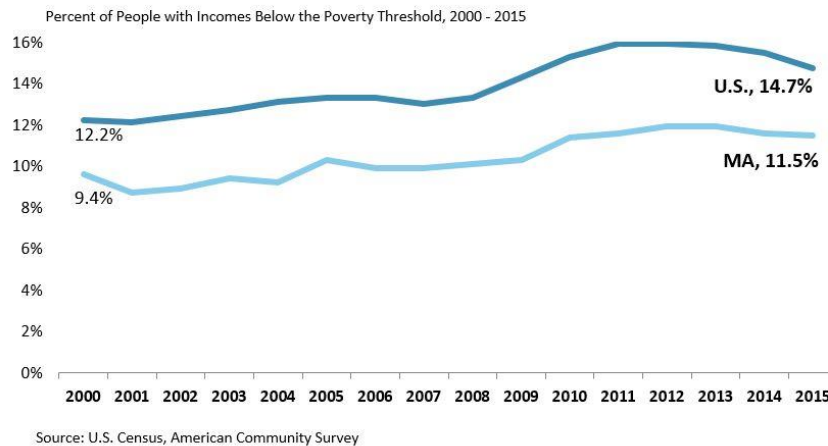
STEWART: Support. I support any legislation to impose greater accountability for corporate tax incentives. There are currently multiple pieces of legislation this session that address these issues, including S.1498 by Senator Chang-Diaz and S.1549 by Senator Lesser and I am in favor of both. In 2012, a report was issued by a Tax Expenditure Commission that had been set up by Governor Patrick in conjunction with the Legislature. The report recommended ways to measure and review their effectiveness. I support any legislation that would codify the recommendations of that report into law.

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.

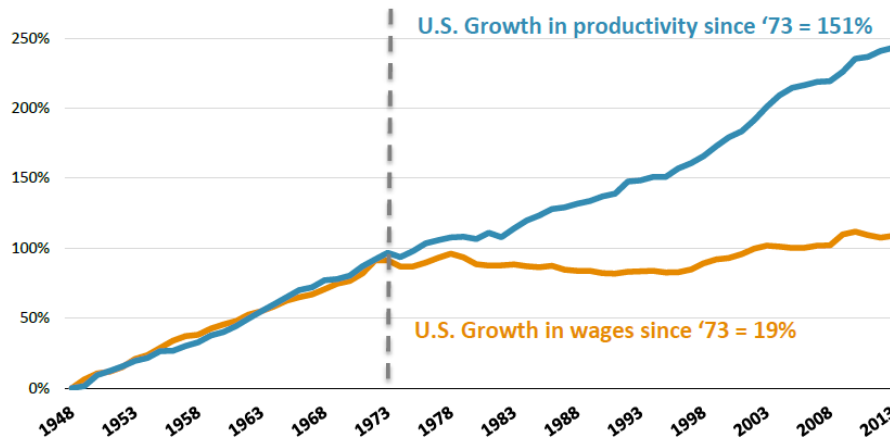
MA and U.S. Poverty Rates Remain Elevated Despite Years of Recovery



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

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?

FRIEDMAN: Our growing wage gap leaves many in our communities behind. Workers must have an opportunity to earn a living wage in order to care for themselves and their families. In partnership with Sen. Donnelly, I worked on legislation for the past decade to enhance worker benefits and protect workers' right to organize and collectively bargain. This work has included efforts to: raise the minimum wage to \$11 per hour, and now fight for a \$15 minimum wage (see below); combat wage theft (see below); support the "fair share" tax amendment; seek greater workforce training funding for the WCTF (i.e., helped Sen. Donnelly file 3 bills to enhance WCTF funding); and promote apprenticeship training programs (i.e., during the recent transportation bond bill debate, helped Sen. Donnelly draft an amendment that was adopted, which creates 300 pre-apprenticeship training positions per year for 5 years for unemployed youth, women, and minorities).

GARBALLEY: As legislators our role is to work to improve the quality of life for the people of the Commonwealth. I have worked for and voted in favor of increasing the minimum wage but we must prioritize increasing the minimum wage to \$15 an hour. We must pass the Fair Share Amendment. The revenue created from the Fair Share Amendment will allow us to invest in education and transportation. I am the only candidate in this race who has voted in favor of the Fair Share Amendment in the House of Representatives. We must pass single payer in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and support the most vulnerable citizens in our state.

STEWART: Income does not "trickle down" but is spread outward from the middle. To accomplish this, we need to build up the middle class. We should invest and encourage innovation and technology for a green economy that creates clean, renewable energy. We also need to re-structure our tax system to make it more fair and grow revenue in order to make our Commonwealth better for all our residents. We should be taxing those who can afford to pay more while controlling the tax burden on lower and middle income families. If we grow our tax base we can provide a quality public education for all children, regardless of where they live, create a transportation system for the future, and provide the sort of safety net that will offer a path out of the cycle of poverty.

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

FRIEDMAN: See question 1 above and questions 3 and 5 below.

GARBALLEY: I have been one of the main cosponsors of increasing the minimum wage to \$15 an hour and passing Paid Family Medical Leave. These are two critical policies that the legislature needs to pass. I have filed legislation called an act ensuring an adequate living wage and this legislation would increase the minimum wage to \$15 an hour. I have also filed legislation entitled an act Establishing Just Schedules for Employees. This is a piece of legislation I have been working on with Senator Elizabeth Warren to protect part time workers in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

STEWART: As I stated above, I personally collected more than 500 signatures for the ballot initiative to increase the minimum wage and guarantee earned sick leave (November 2014). I have also written about this effort on my blog: <https://mastewartma.blogspot.com/2013/10/raise-up-massachusetts.html>

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

FRIEDMAN: Support. As Senator Donnelly's Chief of Staff, I helped draft and file legislation that would raise the minimum wage to \$15 per hour by 2021 and increase the tipped minimum wage to \$15.75 by 2025. The legislation would also index the minimum wage to CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W). Regarding 3, 3a, and 3b: I support raising the minimum wage to \$15 an hour, making the tipped minimum wage equal to regular minimum wage, and indexing all wages to inflation. In the current session S.1004, forwarded by Senator Donnelly, would codify these changes and I support the bill wholeheartedly.

GARBALLEY: Support.

STEWART: Support.

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

FRIEDMAN: Support.

GARBALLEY: Support.

STEWART: Support.

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

FRIEDMAN: Support.

GARBALLEY: Support.

STEWART: 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?

FRIEDMAN: Support.

GARBALLEY: Support.

STEWART: Support. The current federal law mandates employees be allowed to take up to 12 weeks of family medical leave, but that leave is unpaid, thus only available to those who can afford it. Mandating paid leave would enable more employees care for themselves or loved ones, if needed. Senator Spilka

has put forward S.1048, legislation which would create an insurance program for family and medical leave and I support this bill.

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?*

FRIEDMAN: Support. Yes. In fact, during the Senate debate on the wage theft bill last session, I helped Sen. Donnelly draft and file numerous amendments to strengthen the bill. The amendments included provisions that would: (1) hold lead companies (i.e., general contractors) liable for any wage theft violations committed by contracted companies (i.e., sub-contractors); (2) make stop-work orders effectively immediately; and (3) allow the Attorney General to bring a civil action for treble damages in instances of alleged wage theft.

GARBALLEY: Support.

STEWART: Support.

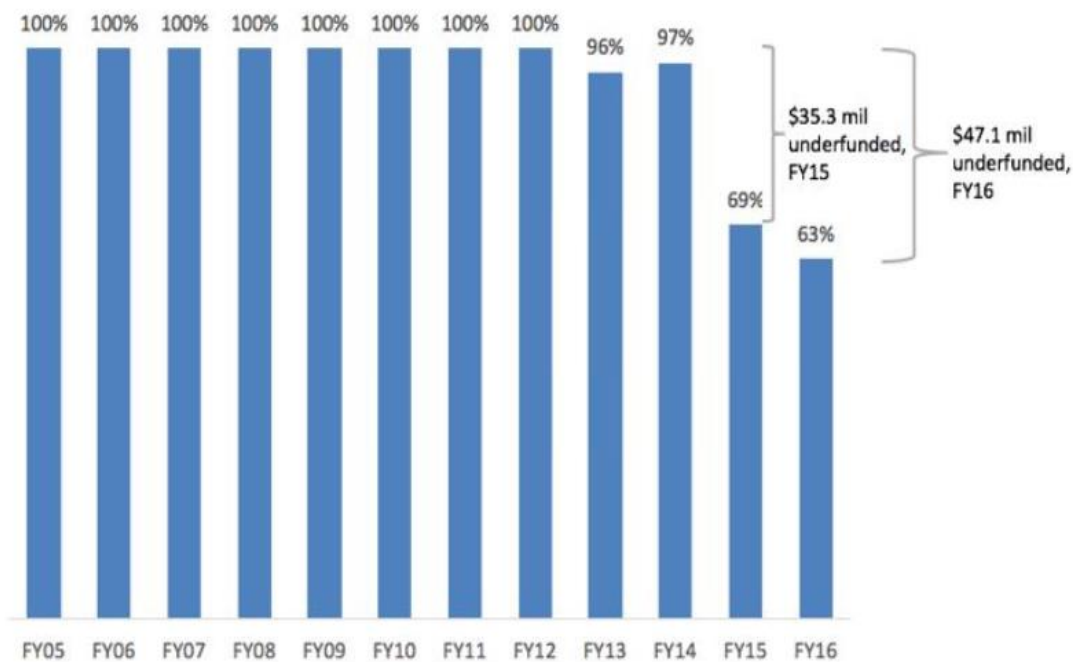
C. EDUCATION

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.

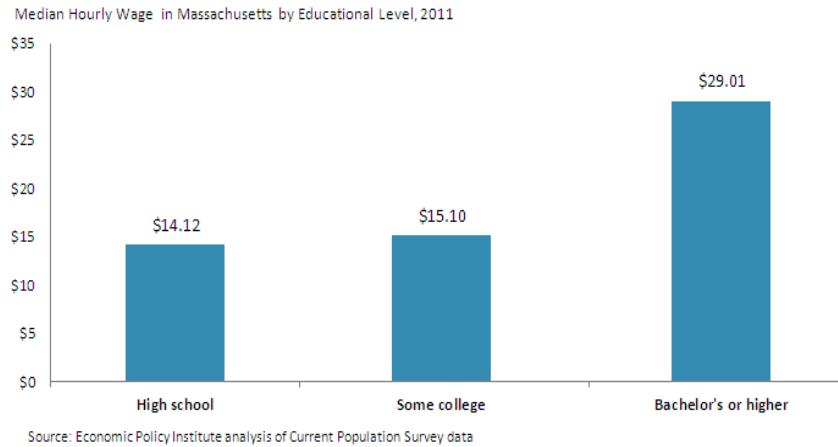
The state hasn’t been living up to its responsibility to fully fund our public schools.

The State Has Not Fully Funded Charter Reimbursements in Recent Years

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

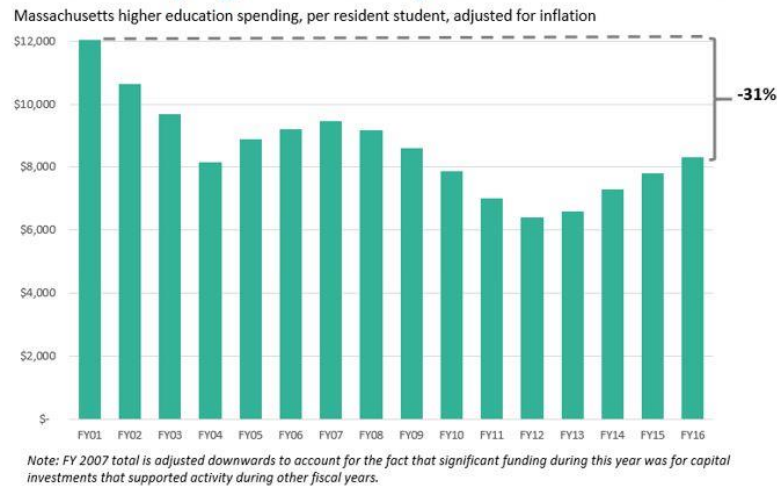


Higher educational attainment leads to higher wages.



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



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 the Commonwealth take on these issues?*

FRIEDMAN: Investing in our schools is one of my top priorities. Statewide education funding has steadily declined for nearly two decades, forcing communities to cut school programs or further shift funds from local priorities. As a former public school teacher and parent, I am committed to fully funding our public schools (as recommended by the Foundation Budget Review Commission), because I understand that access to quality, free, publicly-funded education allows all of our children to reach their full potential.

GARBALLEY: As a former School Committee member and as someone who attended a public school and a public university I believe public education is absolutely essential for the future of our Commonwealth. We must provide universal Pre-K in the Commonwealth. The legislature must fully implement the recommendations from the Foundation Budget Review Commission. I am the Chair and co-founder (along with Senate President Rosenberg) of the Public Higher Education Caucus. We must provide tuition free higher education for students across the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. During my time in the House of Representatives I have voted against all efforts to raise the cap on charter schools. We must invest in our public schools.

STEWART: As a parent, former Lexington School Committee member and chairwoman, and a past President of the Massachusetts PTA, I have spoken up for family engagement in laws, technologically advanced schools, and equity and excellence for all regardless of socio-economic condition. I continue to be a rational voice for children and families as the Parent Representative on the Massachusetts Board of Elementary and Secondary Education. When I talk about education, I'm not just giving you talking points. I have rolled up my sleeves and gotten results on issues that impact our children every day, like safe and supportive schools for LGBTQ youth, advocating for children with special needs, and for creating school culture that is less about testing and data collection and more about community-building and joyful classrooms. We need to expand our vision for public education, such that we are providing free schooling from pre-K through post secondary.

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

FRIEDMAN: See questions 3-8 below.

GARBALLEY: I currently serve as the Vice Chairman of the Joint Committee on Higher Education and before elected to the House of Representatives I served as a member of the Arlington School Committee. I played an active role in passing the Foundation Budget Review Commission and now I am working to fully implement the recommendations. I am the author of the 50/50 legislation. I filed and worked with my colleagues to pass this critical piece of legislation. This legislation mandated that at least 50% of a students education in public higher education would be funded by the state. In passing this law fees and tuition were not increased for two years. This provided a large appropriation increase in

supporting public higher education in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. I have also filed legislation to mandate that every child born in Massachusetts have a college savings account created.

STEWART: Please refer to my blog for numerous examples of public testimony and letters, OpEds and Guest Commentaries, and posts on the above: mastewartma.blogspot.com

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?

FRIEDMAN: Support. In fact, as Sen. Donnelly's Chief of Staff, I helped draft and file legislation that would tax private university endowments in excess of \$1 billion. All monies collected would be used exclusively for the purposes of subsidizing the cost of higher education, early education and childcare for lower-income and middle-class residents.

GARBALLEY: Support.

STEWART: 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?

FRIEDMAN: Oppose.

GARBALLEY: Oppose.

STEWART: Oppose. Please refer to www.masseditjustice.org/317/

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?

FRIEDMAN: Support.

GARBALLEY: Support.

STEWART: Support. Pleased to see that the Senate Budget Proposal addresses implementation of some of the FBRC's recommendations and then through additional implementation of provisions via Amendment 75.

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?*

FRIEDMAN: Support.

GARBALLEY: Support.

STEWART: 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?*

FRIEDMAN: Support. All schools that receive public money should be held to the same standards of accountability and transparency. I support any charter school reforms that seek to level the playing field between charter schools and traditional public schools. Reforms should address the lack of: (1) transparency, with regards to charter school governance, funding and operations; (2) accountability, with regards to charter schools' academic, financial and ethical standards; and (3) oversight, with regard to charter schools' ability to accept certain students and turn away other students and their families.

GARBALLEY: Support.

STEWART: Support.

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

FRIEDMAN: Support.

GARBALLEY: Support.

STEWART: Support.

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

FRIEDMAN: Support. In fact, as Sen. Donnelly's Chief of Staff, I helped draft and file legislation that would tax private university endowments in excess of \$1 billion. All monies collected would be used exclusively for the purposes of subsidizing the cost of higher education, early education and childcare for lower-income and middle-class residents.

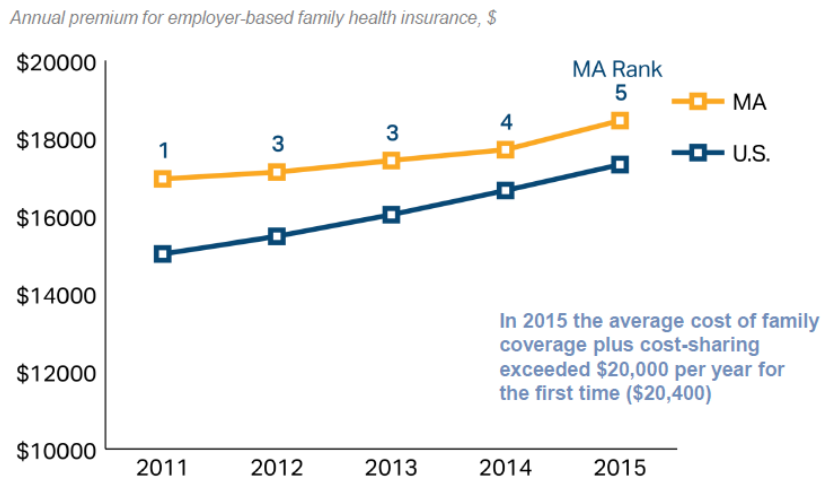
GARBALLEY: Support.

STEWART: Support.

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

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

FRIEDMAN: I believe that access to healthcare is a human right and that we need a Medicare for all model of delivery. I believe that healthcare should be patient-focused and not insurance-focused, which is what it is today. Additionally, our state needs to do a better job focusing on mental health parity issues.

GARBALLEY: The Massachusetts legislature must enact single payer health care legislation. Due to my work in the area of health care policy over the last decade I am strongly supportive of passing single payer Massachusetts. I am proud to have been endorsed by the Massachusetts Nurses Association in this election and I look forward to working with them and other constituencies to pass this legislation and to put patients first in health care policy.

STEWART: I firmly believe that quality health care is a right and, along with mental health care, are necessary and must be accessible to all without regard to income, race, ethnicity, level of ability, or any other category. Allowing all to access quality care will encourage delivery of preventative care, which in many cases leads to better outcomes and lower costs.

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

FRIEDMAN: I have drafted several bills addressing mental healthcare and mental health parity on behalf of Sen. Donnelly, and I have worked to provide funding for pilot programs to address those with persistent and severe mental illness that do not receive treatment. In our 4th Middlesex district, I have worked with police departments and the courts to address the decriminalization of mental illness.

GARBALLEY: During my time in the Massachusetts House of Representatives I have led the effort against insurance companies in making sure they provide health insurance coverage to the most vulnerable constituencies in the Commonwealth. I filed and passed legislation that mandated insurance companies would have to cover hearing aids for children. This was a critical reform and now no child goes without hearing aids in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. I have also led the fight to mandate that health insurance companies provide coverage for children with protein disorders, mental health needs, and for people who live with multiple sclerosis. I have also filed legislation to make sure that 150,000 children in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts don't lose health insurance coverage if the Republican party in Washington decides to defund the Children's Health Insurance Program.

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

FRIEDMAN: Support. Healthcare costs continue to rise while levels of care continue to fall, especially for those who suffer from mental illness and substance use disorder. Everyone deserves access to high-quality, affordable healthcare that offers a flexible choice of providers and eliminates excessive administrative fees like premiums, co-pays, and deductibles. Attempts to control healthcare costs within the present private insurance system have failed, and costs have steadily consumed more state, municipal, business and household budgets. We must search for alternative options – like single payer systems, which have a track record of reducing inequities in healthcare, improving access to care and reducing costs for families, businesses, municipalities and states.

GARBALLEY: Support.

STEWART: Support. We are seeing that the road to single-payer is long and I think it is our ultimate destination. I support legislation to enact a single-payer health care system in the Commonwealth and also to make the system more transparent, with regard to comparison procedures and costs. With so much in chaos in Washington, and our federal reimbursements in jeopardy, the time has never been more ripe to move forward with a single-payer plan. Currently S.619, proposed by Senator Eldridge, would establish Medicare for All and I am in support of this legislation.

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

FRIEDMAN: Support. I have been a strong advocate for women's reproductive rights since I was 18. I marched in the 1970s for a woman's right to choose and have continually supported causes and candidates that are strong proponents of reproductive rights. I worked with Planned Parenthood staff to defeat the 1986 referendum that would have allowed the state to regulate or prohibit a woman's right

to choose. I believe that all women should have access to birth control and other forms of preventative health care, regardless of economic status, to ensure they have the resources they need to live safe and healthy lives.

GARBALLEY: Support.

STEWART: Support. I strongly support legislation that supports women's access to abortion. In addition, in we have yet to codify Roe v. Wade in Massachusetts and I would work to do that, as well. In the past, we have been able to rely on federal laws to protect a woman's right to choose, but we are seeing how decisions being made in Washington DC are threatening that right like never before.

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

FRIEDMAN: Support.

GARBALLEY: Support.

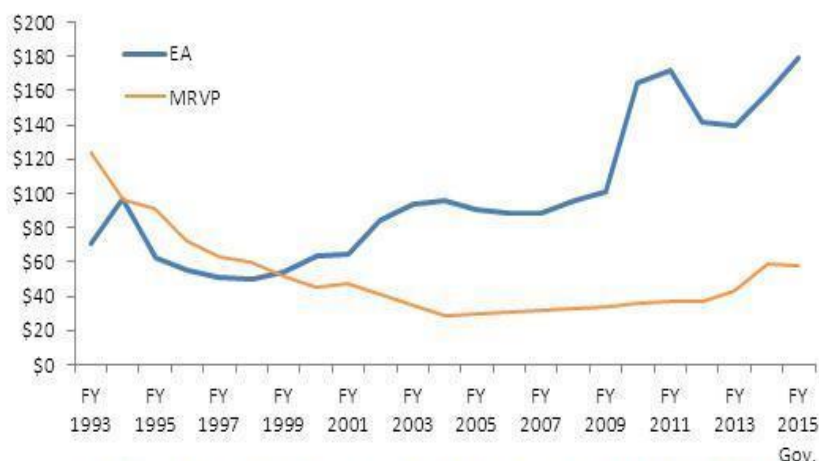
STEWART: Support. This is a matter of reproductive health for both men and women and should be treated as such.

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.

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?

FRIEDMAN: Our communities are stronger when all families have access to clean, affordable, high-quality housing options – options that allow people to remain living where they work or grew up. However, our state is facing a housing crisis that is making this more and more difficult for working families. We need to increase housing production (especially affordable housing) to keep pace with population growth, address gentrification so that revitalization doesn't lead to displacement, and reform our zoning regulations to better streamline the housing production process.

GARBALLEY: State investment in affordable housing is critically important because it is one of the proven ways to stabilize individuals and families. We must do everything we can to reduce homelessness and poverty. We must work to increase housing opportunities. This includes increasing funding for rental

subsidy programs and funding capital programs. I also support zoning reform in the Commonwealth that will lead to more housing production.

STEWART: My husband, Duncan, and I moved into Lexington in 1994 through the affordable housing program, LexHAB, on a five-year lease. Duncan had grown up and attended Lexington schools, graduating from LHS. We were fortunate to then find and purchase a modest home in East Lexington. It's clear that we need more affordable housing in all communities.

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

FRIEDMAN: I have worked in partnership with Sen. Donnelly to secure additional funding in the state budget for housing for homeless individuals. In my hometown of Arlington, I have consistently supported the housing corporation and its efforts to build more affordable housing.

GARBALLEY: During my time in the House of Representatives I was the lead sponsor to an amendment to increase the appropriation for the Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program. This increase in funding allowed for hundreds of more rental vouchers to be available for families.

STEWART: As a member of Lexington's Town Meeting since 2006, I have voted to support expanded affordable housing here. Chapter 40B urges communities to provide affordable housing in 10% of its housing stock, and we are over that percentage, currently at 11%.

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?

FRIEDMAN: Support.

GARBALLEY: Support.

STEWART: Support. Knowing how our family personally benefitted from affordable housing, I wouldn't hesitate to allow others to benefit from a similar program. We have been out of the affordable housing system for about 20 years now and I'm proud to own a home in that same community -- and able to run for State Senate.

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?

FRIEDMAN: Support.

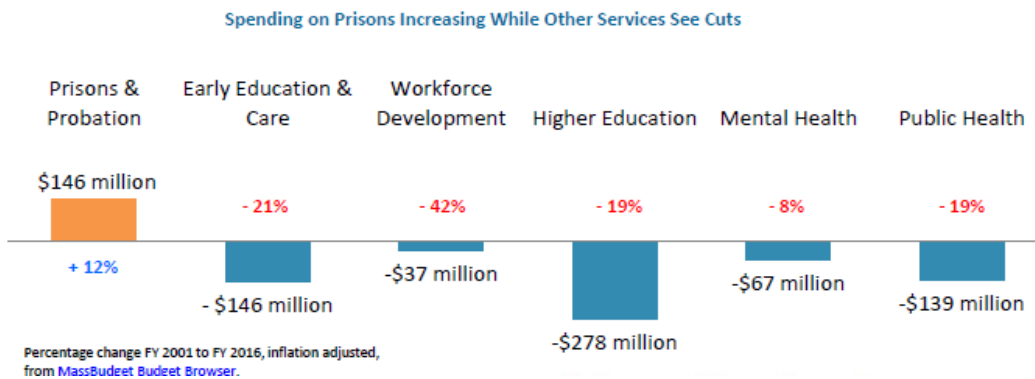
GARBALLEY: Support.

STEWART: Support. I support the intention of this idea, and applaud the Senate for taking it up and passing zoning reform last year. However, I am concerned about unintended consequences with state mandates on zoning, and would want more information from town leaders before making that decision.

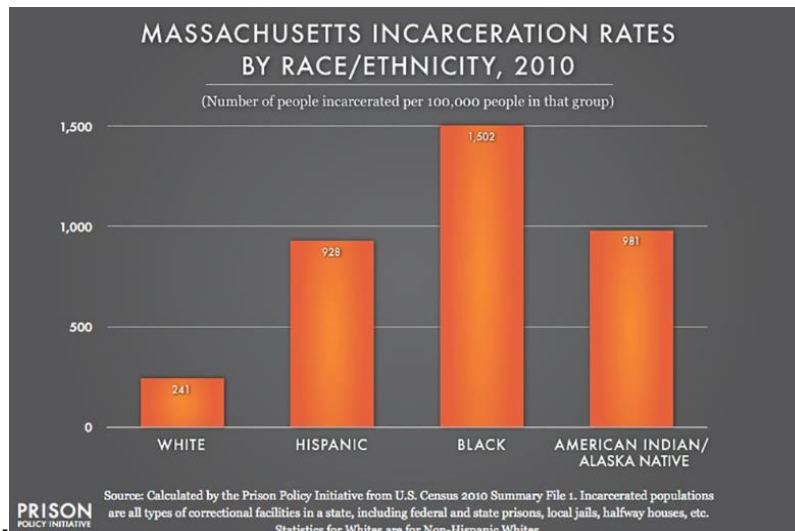
F. RACIAL AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

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



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

FRIEDMAN: I believe that all people should be treated fairly and given equal opportunities in our Commonwealth, regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation or religious identity. At a time when many people's civil rights are under constant attack by our federal government and other states, we need to band together in Massachusetts, stand up against hate, and protect all of our neighbors.

GARBALLEY: I am absolutely committed to racial and social justice and have worked in the legislature to make sure these values and principles guide us in the matters we debate and pass.

STEWART: We seem to have two different justice systems, one for poor, economically disadvantaged people and people of color, and another one for rich, mostly white people. This, like so many other issues, needs to be looked at holistically. The solutions are not simple nor are they particularly clear, and once again, what's true for the nation is not necessarily true in the Commonwealth. Just two weeks ago, MassINC revealed polling that showed a majority of voters here support criminal justice reform that focuses on ending mandatory minimum sentencing in favor of education and training: massincpolling.com/2017/05/11/new-massinc-poll-voters-embrace-end-to-mandatory-minimum-sentencing-support-second-chance-reforms/

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

FRIEDMAN: In Arlington, I was proud to serve as chairwoman of the No Place For Hate organization, which promotes diversity and combats the marginalization of disenfranchised groups.

GARBALLEY: During my time in the House of Representatives I have led the effort within the progressive caucus to pass comprehensive criminal justice reform. I was on the steering committee within the progressive caucus in trying to pass the Transgender Equal Rights legislation and the accommodations legislation.

STEWART: I wrote a letter to Governor Baker last year, asking him to come out in support for the Transgender Rights Bill: mastewartma.blogspot.com/p/public-testimony-letters.html (scroll down to April 1, 2016)

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?

FRIEDMAN: Oppose.

GARBALLEY: Oppose.

STEWART: Oppose. I am in complete opposition to this ballot question because I firmly believe we must prevent discrimination towards anyone, including transgender people.

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

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

I support all of these efforts and I'd like to add one more to the list, Sen. Donnelly's S.834, An Act reforming pretrial process. At any given time, up to 5,000 people in the Commonwealth are sitting in a jail cell, not because they've been convicted of any crime, but because they simply cannot afford to post bail. This is morally reprehensible and economically irresponsible and has a disparate impact on the poor and on communities of color. The availability of money should not determine whether someone is released from jail before trial. S.834 would establish an informed and objective risk-based release process, moving the Commonwealth away from a cash-based bail system to a system where the court would determine whether a person is likely to return to court based upon an objective risk assessment tool.

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

I strongly support all of these steps in combating mass incarceration in the Commonwealth.

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

I support eliminating mandatory minimum sentences. We need to allow our judges, once again, to use discretion in these situations. I support increasing investments in education and job training programs for formerly incarcerated people. Without appropriate options, it is difficult for people to stay out of jail.

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?

FRIEDMAN: Support. I strongly support the Safe Communities Act and other legislation that seeks to promote equal rights under the law for all citizens and immigrants in Massachusetts. Local police resources should be focused on solving crimes, not on non-mandatory federal immigration enforcement. Furthermore, under no circumstances should police have the ability to use state databases or other records to create a registry system based on national origin or religion.

GARBALLEY: Support.

STEWART: Support. I strongly support the Safe Communities Act. The national political landscape is a scary environment for some of our friends and neighbors to be living in. We, in Massachusetts, should do whatever we can to assure them this Commonwealth cares about ALL of its residents, regardless of citizenship status or religion.

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?

FRIEDMAN: Support.

GARBALLEY: Support.

STEWART: 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)?

FRIEDMAN: Support.

GARBALLEY: Support.

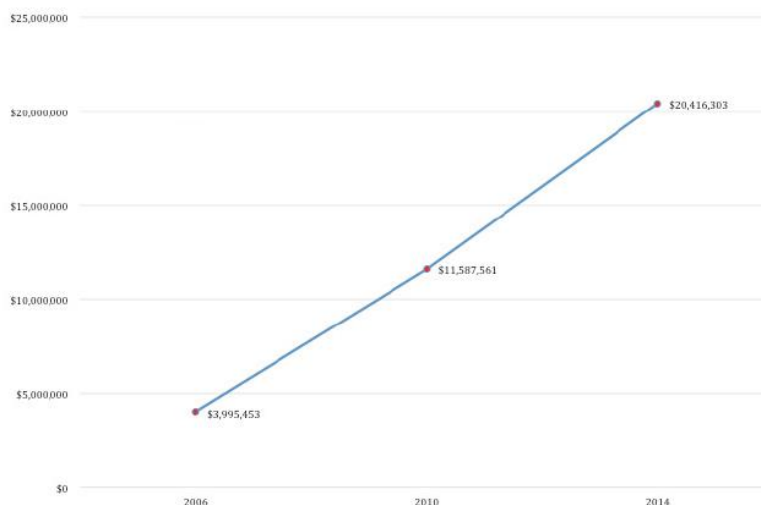
STEWART: Support. There is currently a committee charged with looking into issues surrounding the implementation of Question 4. I want to see what the committee has found before deciding next steps. The people of the Commonwealth clearly wanted Question 4 to pass; at the same time we should ensure safety for anyone who, as with alcohol, may face challenges with marijuana.

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



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

FRIEDMAN: Our government can and should be more transparent and attentive to the concerns of all our residents. Those principles have guided my work with the constituents of the 4th Middlesex district for the past 9 years as Sen. Donnelly's Chief of Staff, and as state Senator, I would adhere to the same.

GARBALLEY: In my current role as a State Representative I am guided by my belief that government should be accountable and open. I believe strongly that the legislature needs to always act in the public's best interest and not in the interests of powerful lobbying groups on Beacon Hill. I have been active in the legislature on important reforms involving money in politics, ethics, and in voting and elections and will continue to be a lead voice on these matters in the State Senate.

STEWART: Governor Patrick often quoted Joseph de Maistre, the most visionary of France's early counterrevolutionaries, when he said, "We get the government we deserve" and, "In a Democracy, people get the leaders we deserve". In a strong, vigilant Democracy, we must not take anything for granted. And yet, in our current national political landscape, we are seeing just how fragile our Democracy is.

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

FRIEDMAN: I have worked hard to register new voters and ensure equal access to the polls on every state and local political campaign that I've worked on.

GARBALLEY: I took on a leadership role within the House of Representatives last session with the goal of passing the most comprehensive public records reform legislation. I was a strong voice in support of ethics reform and led the advocacy efforts in the House of Representatives in passing the Disclose Act. I also filed the online voter registration and was able to get it passed as part of the election reform legislation. I strongly support same day voter registration and automatic voter registration.

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?

FRIEDMAN: I support a shared leadership model in the state Senate.

GARBALLEY: Support.

STEWART: Support.

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

FRIEDMAN: Support. We must fight back against the billions of unlimited, untraceable dollars spent by special interest groups to influence our elections. Our democracy depends on it.

GARBALLEY: Support.

STEWART: Support.

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

FRIEDMAN: Support.

GARBALLEY: Support.

STEWART: Support.

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

GOOD GOVERNMENT / STRONG DEMOCRACY
ENDORSEMENT QUESTIONNAIRE FOR STATE SENATE, 4th MIDDLESEX
SPECIAL / PRIMARY- JUNE 27, 2017 / ELECTION - JULY 25, 2017



FRIEDMAN: Support. The right to vote is the bedrock of a democracy. All eligible voters must have fair and equal access to our state election process.

GARBALLEY: Support.

STEWART: Support. I support any efforts to make voting easier for people because voting is the most fundamental right we have in a Democracy. Election Day registration and automatic voter registration are both important principles that bring this about.

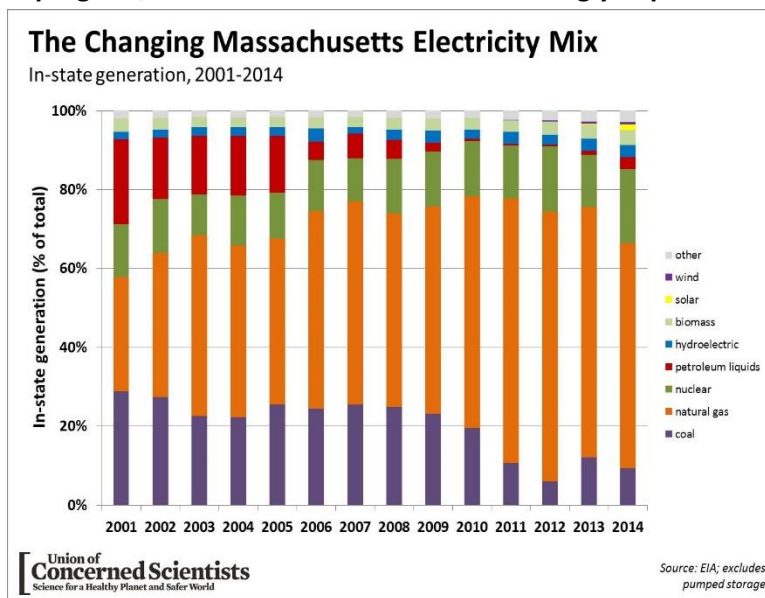
H. SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



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.

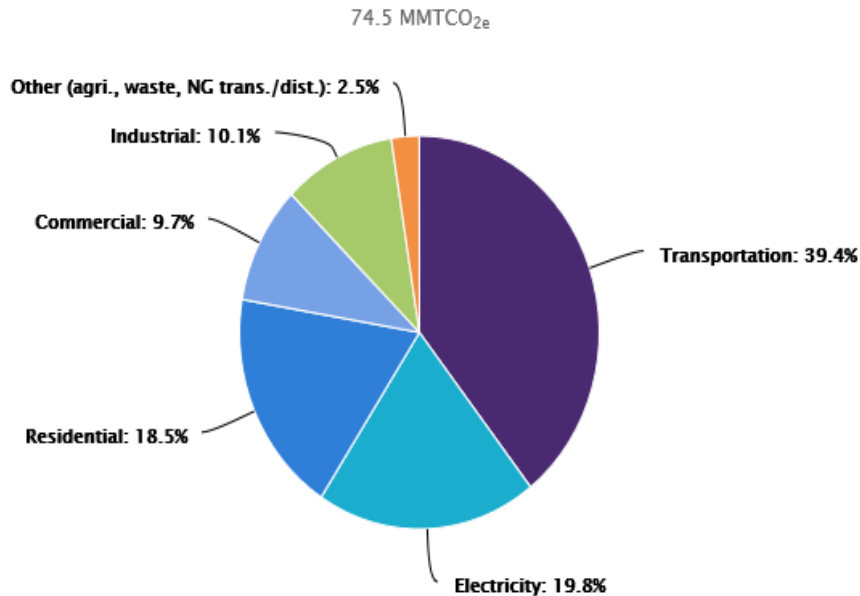
Public transit must play a role in decarbonizing our transportation system, as well as advancing complementary goals of equity and inclusion. However, Massachusetts politicians have lost their understanding of public transit as a public good that benefits all residents and businesses in Massachusetts, 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>)

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

FRIEDMAN: At a time when our environment is under unprecedented attack at the federal level, the responsibility for protecting and preserving our precious natural resources is being left up to the states. No state is better to take the lead than Massachusetts, but it takes real investment. Although Governor Baker pledged to dedicate at least 1% of the state budget (approximately \$40M) to environmental agencies, he has repeatedly reneged on his promise. As state Senator, I will be a vocal proponent for a clean environment and sustainable future and will support bills to promote green infrastructure, reduce GHG emissions, combat climate change, restore funding to the Community Preservation Act Trust Fund, and create 21st century clean energy jobs. I will also support allocating 1% of the state budget to support environmental agencies, because investing one penny of every state-operating dollar to protect our environment is not too much to ask.

GARBALLEY: This session I have filed legislation to move the Commonwealth to 100% renewable energy by 2050. It is absolutely essential for Massachusetts to lead the way on combating climate change. This proposal will help combat climate change but also help create jobs in the Commonwealth and invest in our infrastructure. The solutions Project estimates that if Massachusetts moves to 100% renewable energy by 2050 53,490 construction jobs and 37,950 operational jobs would be created. The Commonwealth must also invest in water infrastructure. I have filed legislation that would provide a dedicated revenue source that would support water infrastructure projects in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE / ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

ENDORSEMENT QUESTIONNAIRE FOR STATE SENATE, 4th MIDDLESEX
SPECIAL / PRIMARY- JUNE 27, 2017 / ELECTION - JULY 25, 2017



STEWART: Climate change is real (and a campaign priority) and we must do whatever we can in the Commonwealth and regionally to protect for future generations. I am dedicated to being a good steward of resources, including natural resources. One of the reasons Duncan and I chose to live in Lexington was for the history and conservation in this area. Indeed, the very land here is bound to its history and it's important that it be preserved.

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

FRIEDMAN: As Sen. Donnelly's Chief of Staff, I helped him file S.1839, An Act relative to home energy efficiency, which would help Massachusetts residents control their energy costs and greenhouse gas emissions by providing homebuyers with an energy performance score at the time of sale.

GARBALLEY: During my time in the House of Representatives I worked to pass the Global Warming Solutions Act, the Green Communities Act, and the Oceans Act. I have also filed legislation to ban "fracking" in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and I am the lead sponsor of landmark legislation calling for Massachusetts to move to 100% renewable energy by 2050. As the Chair and founder of the MBTA Caucus I have worked to expand access to public transportation. This includes leading the effort opposing services cuts, working to reduce the cost of The Ride, and working to bring the Green Line Extension to Medford and start the North/South Rail Link project. I have also been working to address the \$5 billion structural debt. The Commonwealth must remove the \$5 billion dollar debt from the MBTA in order to invest in MBTA infrastructure.

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?*

FRIEDMAN: Support.

GARBALLEY: Support.

STEWART: Support.

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

FRIEDMAN: Support.

GARBALLEY: Support.

STEWART: Support.

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

FRIEDMAN: Support.

GARBALLEY: Support.

STEWART: Support.

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

FRIEDMAN: Oppose. Instead, we should be putting our time and resources into:

- (1) doubling down on energy efficiency;
- (2) promoting local renewable energy (instead of importing out-of-state and out-of-region fracked natural gas);
- (3) increasing the ability to store electricity (see State of Charge report);
- (4) increasing the storage of natural gas for those extreme peak natural gas usage days (which is the primary reason for any argument for new pipelines); and
- (5) reducing leakage from our current pipeline infrastructure to a negligible level.

GARBALLEY: Oppose.

STEWART: Oppose.

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?*

FRIEDMAN: Support. We cannot continue to try to save money by cutting services at the expense of our workers and riders, and simultaneously, make little effort to invest in our transportation system to improve service. It's time we invest now and put our riders first.

GARBALLEY: Support. I strongly support finding progressive revenue sources to fund the MBTA and RTAs.

STEWART: Support.

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?*

FRIEDMAN: Support.

GARBALLEY: Support.

STEWART: I think I like the sentiment that I think is being proposed here, but I'm not familiar with proposals for it and need more information about this one.

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

FRIEDMAN: Oppose.

GARBALLEY: Oppose.

STEWART: Oppose. I think I like the sentiment that I think is being proposed here, but I'm not familiar with proposals for it and need more information about this one.

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



Voter/Member **NOTES**