

*Quentin Palfrey*

**Statewide**

**Lieutenant Governor  
of Massachusetts**

---



*Endorsement Questionnaire*

**Office Sought:** Lieutenant Governor of Massachusetts

**Legislative District:** Statewide

**Party:** Democrat

**Website:** <https://www.quentinpalfrey.com/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/qpalfrey>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/qpalfrey>

**Primary:** September 4, 2018

**Election:** November 6, 2018

# Contents

<b>Primary: September 4, 2018</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Election: November 6, 2018</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Introduction: Progressive Mass</b>	<b>2</b>
About	2
Membership	2
How Endorsements Work	2
Sources	2
<b>I. About the Candidate</b>	<b>3</b>
Quentin Palfrey	3
A. REVENUE AND TAXATION	4
B. JOB GROWTH AND THE ECONOMY	7
C. EDUCATION	11
D. HEALTH CARE	16
E. HOUSING	19
F. RACIAL AND SOCIAL JUSTICE	22
G. GOOD GOVERNMENT/ STRONG DEMOCRACY	26
H. Sustainable Infrastructure and Environmental Protection	29
<b>III. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS</b>	<b>33</b>

---

# Introduction: Progressive Mass

## About

---

*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 5 years ago by local organizers from the Patrick and Obama campaigns in order to continue to move forward progressive values and issues in Massachusetts.*

*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 that you get to participate in our endorsement votes for key elections, helping to shape the future direction of progressive policymaking in the state. **Not yet a member? Join!** [ProgressiveMass.com/member](https://ProgressiveMass.com/member)

### How Endorsements Work

Progressive Massachusetts sends candidates this detailed policy questionnaire, revised periodically by the Elections & Endorsements Committee (EEC). The EEC may choose to make a recommendation in a given race, but the ultimate decision lies with you--the members. In each race, you can choose to vote for a **candidate**, vote “**no endorsement**,” or **abstain**. Candidates who receive at least 60% of all ballots submitted in their respective race will be endorsed by Progressive Massachusetts. If no candidate in a race reaches the 60% threshold, we will not endorse. Regardless of whether or not we endorse, all questionnaires will be made available on our website as a public service.

## 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](https://massbudget.org)).*

# I. About the Candidate

## Quentin Palfrey

---

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

**Quentin Palfrey:** The central focus of my campaign is the fight against poverty and inequality. I am running for Lieutenant Governor because I believe that it is more important now than ever for Massachusetts to be a progressive leader. We live in an era in which a radicalized Republican party has emboldened white supremacists, seeks to kick millions off of healthcare, and seems to delight in ripping families apart. I want to be able to tell my children and my grandchildren that I stood up for our values. There are three key roles I would like to play as Lieutenant Governor. First, as an attorney who has fought for civil rights, I would like to use the LG's role as chair of the Governor's Council as a platform to advocate for criminal justice reform.

Second, given my background working in the White House and for a member of Congress, I believe I am well positioned to help the Governor navigate the current, broken federal environment. Dealing with the federal government is more difficult than ever, but the Commonwealth has a lot at stake in that relationship -- from block grants, to our Medicaid waiver, to dealing with Immigration and Customs Enforcement when it picks on our cities and towns.

Third, the Lieutenant Governor has often served as a bridge between the Governor's office and cities and towns. Many of the most important policy issues that touch people's lives, such as education, transportation, the opioid epidemic, and housing policy, happen at the local level. I want to use my experience fighting inequality and poverty to be a partner, ally, and advocate for local governments.

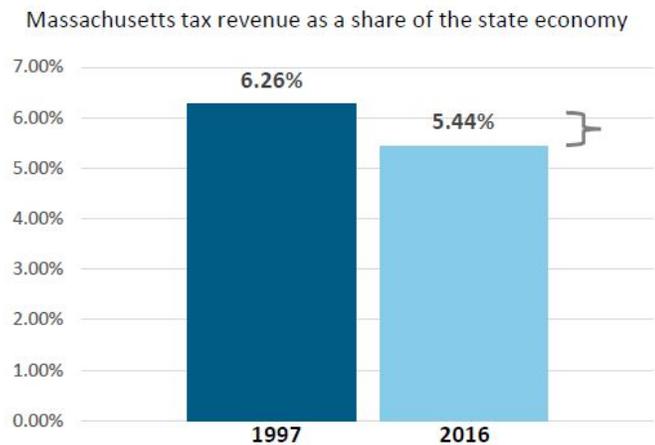
### 2. *What prepares you to serve in this capacity?*

**Quentin Palfrey:** I have spent my career working for the public interest. The honor of my career was to serve as President Obama's Senior Advisor for Jobs and Competitiveness in the White House Office of Science & Technology Policy. Prior to that, I worked as Deputy General Counsel for Strategic Initiatives in the U.S. Commerce Department and as Chief of the Health Care Division of the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office. In addition to the positions I have held in government, I have held leadership roles in a number of nonprofit organizations. Most recently, I was the executive director of J-PAL North America, the poverty lab at MIT which conducts research and promotes evidence-based policy. In that position, I helped governments and nonprofits to invest in the most effective programs to fight poverty and inequality.

# 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.**



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?*

**Quentin Palfrey:** Massachusetts must lead the way in fostering an economy that works for everyone. Progressive taxation is a powerful tool to ensure that, in one of the wealthiest states in the richest nation in the world, no one struggles to make ends meet and everyone has the opportunity to thrive. Our tax code should reflect our values. It should ask the companies and households that have gained the most from our Commonwealth to make a fair contribution to its future. It should reward businesses that invest in their communities, operate responsibly, and treat their workers fairly. It should foster innovation and employment in a way that benefits all of Massachusetts. It should make substantial, dedicated investments in community development, education, and our next generation of entrepreneurs.

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.).*

**Quentin Palfrey:** I have written and spoken extensively on creating an economy that works for everyone, including through our tax code, and many of these articles can be found at [www.quentinpalfrey.com/policy](http://www.quentinpalfrey.com/policy). See especially <https://medium.com/@qpalfrey/building-an-economy-that-works-for-everyone-5afcf3c10345>.

3. *Progressive Taxation. Currently, Progressive Massachusetts is working on a constitutional amendment to increase the income tax on income over \$1 million by 4% (Fair Share Amendment, sometimes referred to as the “Millionaire’s Tax”), which will be on the 2018 ballot. Do you support this ballot question?*

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes.** A Millionaire’s Tax is a common-sense way to invest in the future of the Commonwealth. It will let us make critical investments in our public schools, affordable higher education, and infrastructure – helping students, workers, and businesses across the state. Above all, it’s fair and progressive, and a way for the most fortunate to support the communities that made their success possible. I strongly support the ballot question, and it will remain a central part of this campaign.

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 oppose efforts to extend the sales tax holiday?*

**Quentin Palfrey:** I would need to review the specifics of the particular proposal, but the way I would approach the question would be to examine the historical evidence as to the effect of past sales tax holidays to assess whether the benefits received by consumers and retailers were sufficient to justify the decline in revenue.

5. *Corporate Tax Breaks & Disclosure. Do you support the state’s collecting and publicly disclosing the information about the benefits actually provided by corporations receiving tax credits?*

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes.** Any corporation that accepts support from a community has a responsibility to support that community. When we invest in a corporation, we should do it to benefit the people of the

Commonwealth—and the people of the Commonwealth should know when a corporation is living up to that investment. We can be a model for good governance of tax benefits and public contracts, and disclosure is a strong place to start.

6. **Corporate Tax Breaks & Wages.** *Do you support requiring any company receiving tax credits from the state to pay a living wage and provide good benefits to all its employees?*

**Quentin Palfrey:** Yes. When our economy is booming, and corporate profits are at record highs, no one should get any less than a living wage. Companies that receive tax credits from the state should to treat their employees properly and give them the support they need to thrive.

Leading the Healthcare Division of the Attorney General’s office, I saw the effect it had when uninsured workers were left to fend for themselves, and I saw the profound change when the Massachusetts health reform law came into effect. We led the nation in showing that health reform could benefit workers, businesses, and the economy. With the courage to try new approaches, we can do the same with fair treatment in the workplace

7. **Federal Tax Overhaul.** *The Dec. 2017 Republican tax overhaul disproportionately and negatively affects the ways that states like Massachusetts raise revenue. What proposals do you support to blunt this impact and its exacerbation of the regressivity of our existing tax code?*

**Quentin Palfrey:** The Republican tax bill targets states like Massachusetts that seek to use a responsible, progressive tax code to finance public investment. Legal scholars have proposed shifting more revenue to employer-side payroll taxes, or allowing charitable donations to the state government in lieu of state taxes. These proposals are worth exploring. I also strongly support passage of the Millionaire’s tax, which would add progressivity to our tax code.

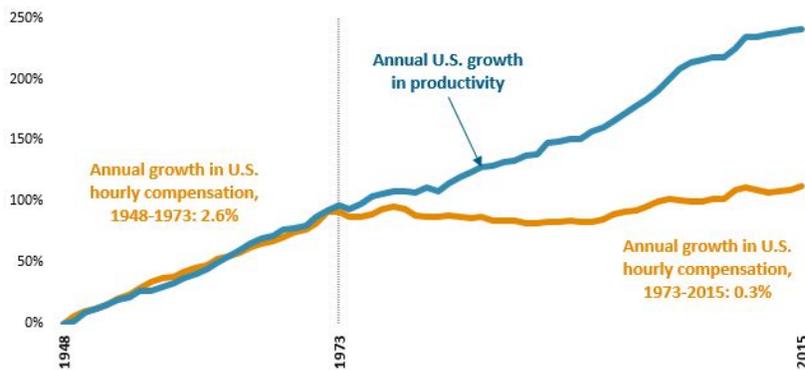
## B. JOB GROWTH AND THE ECONOMY

The Massachusetts economy has continued to grow and recover from the Great Recession, but the gains have not been shared equally. According to various measures of income inequality, Massachusetts now ranks as one of the top ten most [unequal states](#). We are one of the most expensive states in the country for [health care](#), [housing](#), and [child care](#), all of which strain wages. Most MA workers do not have access to paid medical leave, and only a small fraction have access to paid family leave--gaps that force people to choose between their (or their family's) health and their job.

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

### A Large Gap Has Opened Between Wage and Productivity Growth Since 1973

Cumulative Change in U.S. Hourly Wages for Private-Sector Production/Non-Supervisory Workers and Net Productivity, 1948-2015



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  
 Note: Wages are the inflation-adjusted average hourly compensation of private-sector production/nonsupervisory workers.

### Wages For Most MA Workers Have Stagnated Since Great Recession

Real Value of Hourly Wage for Selected Wage-Earning Groups in MA and U.S., 1979-2016 (2016\$)



Source: Economic Policy Institute analysis of Current Population Survey data (deflated using CPI-U-RS).

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? Which sectors do you see as having the greatest potential? How do you view wealth and income inequality, and what would you do about it, if anything?*

**Quentin Palfrey:** Rising inequality is one of the greatest social policy challenges of our time. I have made the fight against poverty and inequality the central focus of my career and my campaign. To create an economy that works for everyone here in the Commonwealth, we need to raise the minimum wage and pass the Fair Share Amendment, which will give us the resources to invest in education and our transportation system. Investing in our public transportation infrastructure and in clean energy will create jobs as well as help to address the challenge of climate change. Investing in education will help ensure that our children are prepared for the 21st-century economy and have the tools they need to innovate and fuel economic growth in the future.

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

**Quentin Palfrey:** The cause of my life has been the fight against inequality and poverty. As chief of the Healthcare Division of the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office, I served as a leading pro-consumer voice in the regulatory process following passage of the Massachusetts Mandated Health Insurance Law, ensuring that poor and working-class citizens could access quality care. Later, I worked in the US

Commerce Department and as Senior Advisor for Jobs and Competitiveness in President Obama's White House. There, I worked to foster innovation and to create American jobs. Most recently, I served as the executive director of MIT's poverty action lab, J-PAL North America, where I helped governments and philanthropies to invest in evidence-supported anti-poverty programs. I have written and spoken extensively on the reduction of poverty and inequality, and many of these articles can be found at [www.quentinpalfrey.com/policy](http://www.quentinpalfrey.com/policy).

3. **Increasing Wages.**

a. **Minimum wage.** *Do you support raising the minimum wage to \$15 an hour?*

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes.** I support raising the minimum wage to \$15/hour. Too many people who work full time struggle to make ends meet, especially in light of the high housing costs in Massachusetts. I believe that it's time to raise the minimum wage so that people in the Commonwealth who work hard can make a living wage and provide for themselves and their families. In addition, I support increasing the minimum salary level for overtime-exempt employees to \$913 per week. This measure would expand access to overtime for low-salary workers such as retail store managers.

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

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes.** I support increasing the tipped minimum wage to equal the regular minimum wage. Workers who rely on tips tend to have unstable wages and are significantly more likely to experience poverty. Eliminating the tipped minimum wage would put these workers on the same footing as other workers.

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

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes.** I support indexing the minimum wage to inflation. The cost of living increases in Massachusetts each year, and the minimum wage should keep up with these rising costs.

4. ***Paid Leave.*** Do you support requiring access to up to 16 weeks of paid family leave and 26 weeks of paid medical leave?

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes.** I support paid family leave. Workers should not be forced to choose between work and their own health needs or the well-being of their children and other family members.

5. ***Wage Theft.*** Do you support 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?

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes.** Businesses should not be permitted to shirk responsibility for paying their employees properly through the improper use of contractors and subcontractors. I support broad enforcement of the Commonwealth's wage laws.

6. ***Youth Jobs.*** Do you support greater reinvestment in youth employment and vocational training programs?

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes.** I strongly support workforce development efforts, including greater investment in youth employment and vocational training programs. As Senior Advisor for Jobs and Competitiveness in President Obama's White House, I worked to create jobs and promote innovation, I would continue those efforts as Lieutenant Governor. Furthermore, with respect to youth employment particularly, a number of studies have shown that youth summer employment programs have the additional benefit of decreasing the likelihood that young people will become involved in criminal activity.

7. ***Privatizing Public Services.*** In 2015, the MA Legislature, urged by Governor Baker, voted to waive the so-called Pacheco Law for the MBTA. The Pacheco Law contains strong safeguards to ensure that state services are not privatized when doing so would harm workers and state revenue. Do you support reinstating the Pacheco Law?

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes.** I support reinstating the Pacheco Law. Governor Baker's efforts to privatize large portions of the MBTA's operations have harmed workers without significantly improving the operations or finances of the T. Reinstatement of the Pacheco Law would place an important check on future privatization efforts.

8. ***Economic Democracy.*** Would you support legislation to foster and develop employee ownership of businesses in Massachusetts and encourage the formation of cooperatives and/or benefit corporations?

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes.** I would support legislation to increase employee ownership of businesses. When implemented well, employee ownership arrangements benefit both firms and employees, and I believe that Massachusetts should consider measures to encourage such arrangements.

9. ***Cannabis Industry.*** What is your vision for how the new state cannabis law should be implemented, and what steps would you take to ensure equitable access to opportunities for communities of color in

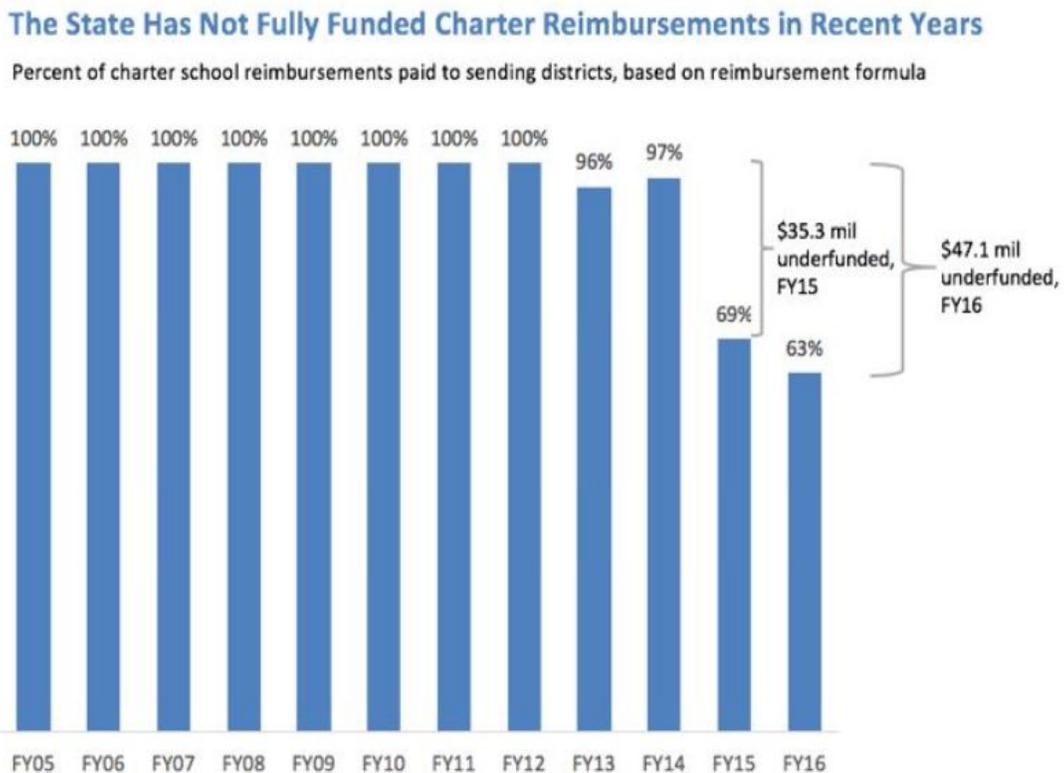
*the new industry?*

**Quentin Palfrey:** Massachusetts should honor the will of the voters by creating a safely regulated cannabis industry that fosters economic opportunity. The regulatory process should actively seek out participation by communities of color to ensure that their voices are represented.

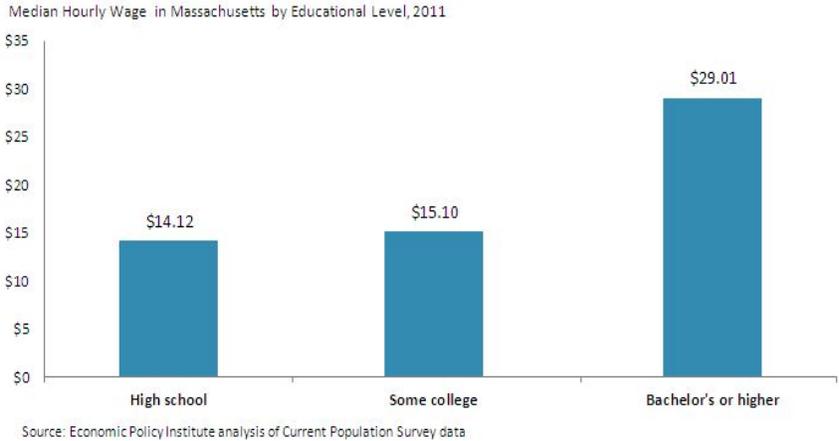
## C. EDUCATION

The promise of public education has always been as 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.**

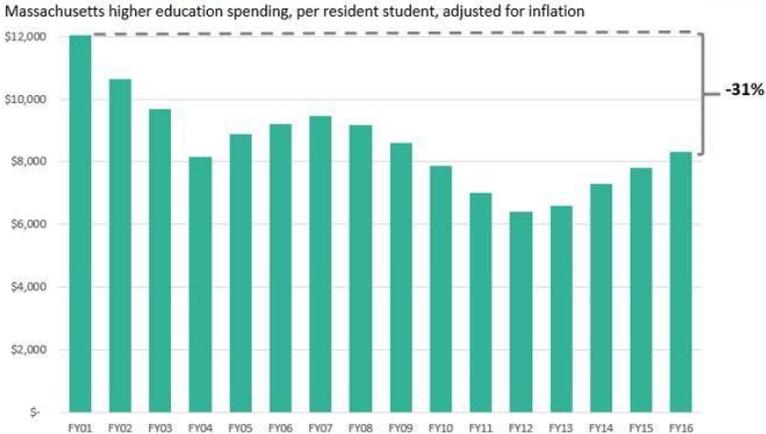


**Higher educational attainment leads to higher wages.**



**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?*

**Quentin Palfrey:** Almost 65 years after *Brown v. Board of Education*, we still have an education system that is deeply segregated and radically unequal. Although the Massachusetts public education system ranks among the best in the nation, we also have some of the most troubling disparities in educational opportunities and attainment. We can and must do more to ensure that all Massachusetts students get access to a high-quality education that will put them on a path to succeed. We need to pass a Millionaires tax to give us the resources to invest more in public education. We need to reform our school aid formulas. We need to invest more in early education, community colleges, higher education, and adult basic education. And we need to make higher education more affordable.

2. *Optional/As Applicable: Please indicate work you personally have done to advance your principles on public education?*

**Quentin Palfrey:** I have written and spoken extensively on inequality in our education system, and many of these articles and presentations can be found at [www.quentinpalfrey.com/policy](http://www.quentinpalfrey.com/policy). In particular, please see an article I wrote in the Michigan Journal on Race & Law entitled “The State Judiciary’s Role in Fulfilling Brown’s Promise” and my opening remarks at a recent conference at MIT on educational technology, personalized learning, and reducing the digital learning gap. During my time in the White House, I was part of the team that launched “Digital Promise,” a congressionally-authorized entity that promotes advancements in educational technology. I also co-founded an adult basic education program called Partners for Empowering Neighborhoods while at Harvard that serves low income communities in public housing facilities in Boston and Cambridge.

3. *Achievement Gaps. What would you do to address persistent racial and economic achievement gaps in education?*

**Quentin Palfrey:** Addressing persistent racial and economic achievement gaps requires tackling the myriad academic and non-academic factors that perpetuate inequality. Research shows that educational disparities start far earlier than kindergarten. Accordingly, we must invest significantly in high-quality childcare and early education to ensure that children come into the K-12 system ready to learn. Once children enter the K-12 system, we must provide all students in every public school with experienced and well supported teachers, with rich, holistic curriculum including increased Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) options, and with differentiated learning environments and afterschool opportunities that meet each student’s passions and needs. We need to teach children at the right level and be thoughtful about integrating technology and personalization into our pedagogical approaches. We must make investments to overcome the digital learning divide. We must eliminate disciplinary policies that disproportionately impact minority students, and provide students with the mentorship, empathy, and support all children need to thrive. In a truly equitable system, the quality of your education would not be contingent on your zip code or on the color of your skin. We also need to reform the funding formula for distributing aid to local school districts.

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

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes.** High-quality early learning opportunities are a critical determinant of long-term academic success, and should be made available for every child regardless of race, income, or zip code. High quality early education is critical to long-term academic achievement, and will help ensure that all

students enter the K-12 system on a level playing field. I will also highlight the critical role pre-K educators play in fostering academic achievement, work to strengthen the pipeline of pre-K educators, and advocate for enhanced compensation, training, and professional opportunities.

5. **Standardized Testing.** Do you 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?

**Quentin Palfrey:** While appropriate measures of student achievement play an important role in identifying and remedying achievement gaps, overuse of high stakes testing can have serious adverse effects on public education by reducing teaching time, narrowing the curriculum, limiting creativity, adding to student stress, and misusing scarce education dollars.

6. **Equitable Funding.** Do you support changing 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?

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes.** I strongly support reforms to the Chapter 70 funding formula to ensure that schools across Massachusetts have the resources they need to provide a world class education to all our children. We simply need more resources to accomplish this, which is one of the reasons I strongly support the Millionaire’s tax. Investing in education is key to ensuring that every child has a chance to succeed, and we must do more to remedy stark inequalities in educational opportunity and attainment. Despite the overall excellence of our public school system, Massachusetts has some of the worst educational disparities in the country. I have written extensively on inequities in public education: please see “The State Judiciary’s Role in Ensuring Brown’s Promise.”

7. **Charter Schools.** Last November, Massachusetts 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 **keeping the cap on charter schools**?

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes.** I believe voters were absolutely correct -- public schools should be our priority.

- b. Would you support 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?

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes.** Every school that receives public funding should be subject to the same disclosure and disciplinary standards. Increased oversight is especially warranted given the disciplinary policies of “no-excuses” charter schools that produce higher rates of suspensions and expulsions for minority students.

8. **Higher Education Access.** Would you support legislation to grant in-state tuition and financial aid to

*undocumented students?*

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes.** Providing access to affordable higher education for undocumented students is not just the right thing to do—it is critical to fostering an inclusive, prosperous economy in the Commonwealth. Undocumented students seeking higher education are courageous, motivated, and committed to creating better lives for themselves and their families. These students and their families contribute greatly to our society and to our economy. Many have overcome significant obstacles to continue their education. We stand with them. We should be doing everything in our power to help them achieve their dreams, especially in an era of unprecedented federal hostility toward undocumented communities. Massachusetts should set an example for the rest of the nation and its leaders by committing to supporting the educational aspirations of all its residents.

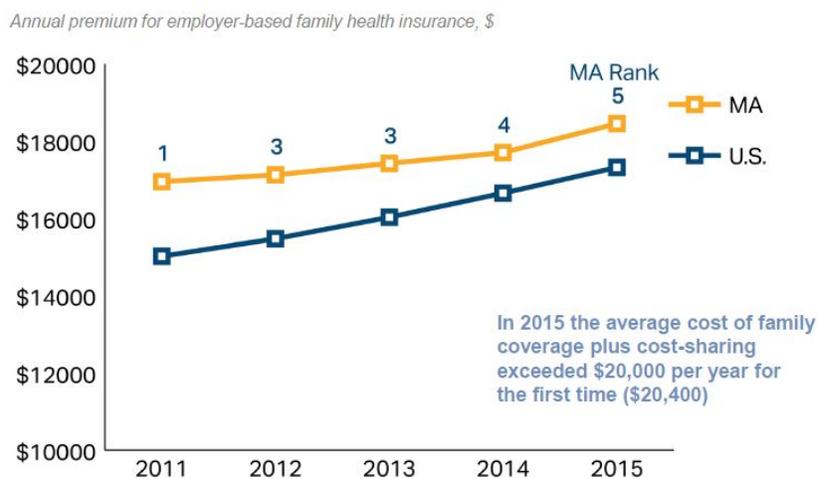
**9. *Tuition-Free Higher Education.* Would you support making tuition (and mandatory curriculum fees) free at public colleges and universities?**

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes.** Education is a human right that should be equally accessible to every Massachusetts resident regardless of zip code, socioeconomic status, race, ethnicity, or immigration status. No student should be forced to incur unmanageable debt to pursue the higher education necessary for full participation in the modern economy. Educational debt is bankrupting a generation of young people. Massachusetts should lead the way nationally by creating a public education system that reflects our progressive values.

## D. HEALTH CARE

Massachusetts has led the way in providing near universal health insurance coverage, with 97% of the state having health insurance. We provided the blueprint for the national Affordable Care Act, with an insurance-based reform passed by the Democratic Legislature and signed by Republican Governor Romney. While the reforms of President Obama's Affordable Care Act are under assault by Republicans (who control the Executive and both legislative chambers), Massachusetts could lead in more progressive health care reforms. Even without the Republican dismantling of national reforms, there is still work to do right here in Massachusetts. MA's Democratic Legislature passed, and the Republican governor signed, the ACCESS bill in 2017--protecting the right to no-fee contraception, which is (federally) under threat: Where our federal advances are being rolled back, Massachusetts could--and should--push progressively forward. 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.*

**Quentin Palfrey:** Access to high quality health care is a right for everyone. While we have made tremendous progress in increasing access to health insurance over the past decade in Massachusetts, much more remains to be done. Health care costs continue to rise, prescription drugs are too expensive, too few people have access to affordable dental care, and the growing epidemic of opioid addiction is a public health emergency that continues to devastate our families and our communities. As Lieutenant Governor, I would push for a single-payer system that ensures that everyone has access to quality care.

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

**Quentin Palfrey:** From 2007 to 2009 I served as the Chief of the Health Care Division of the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office, where I worked with groups like Health Care For All, GBIO, and SEIU 1199 as a leading pro-consumer voice in the regulatory process following passage of the Massachusetts Mandated Health Insurance Law. I have also written and spoken extensively on both domestic and global health issues, and many of these articles and presentations can be found at [www.quentinpalfrey.com/policy](http://www.quentinpalfrey.com/policy). I also co-founded a program at Harvard called Global Access in Action, where I still serve as a co-Director. <http://www.globalaccessinaction.org>. In 1998-99, I was international program manager of a foundation in the Philippines that developed a nationwide, hospital-based multidisciplinary infrastructure for child abuse intervention and prevention.

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

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes.** It's time for Massachusetts to adopt a single payer system and again be a model for the country. Access to high quality health care is a right for everyone. As we have in the past, Massachusetts should lead the way on health reform, building a single payer system at the state level that ensures that everyone has access to the health care services we need. The fight to make affordable, high quality health care available to all will require a sustained effort at both the state and federal level. I am committed to doing everything I can to put poverty and inequality at the center of that conversation. Voices for children, the poor, and the most vulnerable in our society are needed now more than ever. Please see our full statement on this topic here: <https://medium.com/@qpalfrey/once-again-it-is-time-for-massachusetts-to-lead-the-way-on-healthreform-8bfe66d09d0d>.

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

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes.** I strongly support reproductive rights and the right to privacy protected by the Fourteenth Amendment. We must push back against any efforts to impinge on women's health and civil rights.

5. **Dental Care.** Do you support the authorization of dental therapists in Massachusetts, similar to a nurse practitioner or physician assistant, in order to expand access to dental care?

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes.** Too many Massachusetts residents suffer from lack of access to proper dental care. This problem is particularly severe among poorer children. Lack of care can lead to poor oral health and sometimes can lead to costly emergency room visits. Increasing access to dental care would prevent many of these visits, decreasing pain and suffering for patients and avoiding unnecessary health care costs. Dental therapists can provide routine care, allowing dentists to see patients with more complex needs. I support legislation authorizing dental therapists to provide critical care to those in need.

6. **Prescription Drug Pricing.** Would you support a drug transparency law, like the one recently passed in California, that requires pharmaceutical companies to publicly justify steep price increases?

**Quentin Palfrey:** Americans face the highest prescription drug costs in the world and states need to

take aggressive action to rein in predatory pricing practices, such as when Martin Shkreli of Turing hiked the prices of Daraprim more than 50-fold. As the Chief of the Health Care Division in the Massachusetts Attorney General's office, I brought numerous consumer protection lawsuits against pharmaceutical companies and medical device manufacturers, leading cases that recovered millions of dollars for consumers. Transparency can be a powerful tool for exposing harm to consumers particularly in combination with robust unfair & deceptive trade practices powers such as 93A, which allows both consumers and the Attorney General to sue to protect their rights.

I have written and spoken extensively on pharmaceutical pricing practices, particularly in the global health context. See, e.g., <https://cyber.harvard.edu/events/2017/06/Palfrey> and "Expanding Access to Medicines and Promoting Innovation: A Practical Approach," 24 *Georgetown Journal on Poverty Law & Policy* 161 (2017).

7. **Mental Health.** *What will you do to build a comprehensive mental health care system that includes sufficient funding for the Department of Mental Health and an effective and expanded mental health training and response program for first responders and police?*

**Quentin Palfrey:** Mental health services are overburdened, understaffed, and under-funded. We urgently need more funding to ensure that DMR is equipped to serve the needs of its clients. Massachusetts should commit to creating a state of the art resource hotline for those with mental health needs, and promoting its use statewide. We should expand peer support services. Commercial insurers should include emergency services programs as an essential part of behavioral health coverage. A comprehensive approach to children's mental health should be a universal feature of commercial insurance. And we should do more to ensure that we provide comprehensive mental health services and substance use treatment for at risk populations, those in the criminal justice system, and those on probation or parole with known medical needs.

## E. HOUSING

---

Massachusetts has a lot to offer, but that does little if people can't afford to live here. Although Massachusetts ranked #1 last year in the [US News & World Report's state ranking](#), we were #45 in cost of living and #44 in housing affordability. A worker earning minimum wage in Massachusetts would have to work [80 hours a week](#) to afford a modest one bedroom rental home at market rate (and almost 100 hours a week in Metro Boston). 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. The Commonwealth is at risk of losing [14,231 subsidized units](#) by December 31, 2019, as subsidies expire and owners convert properties into market-rate condominiums. 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. There is a waiting list of up to ten years for a rental voucher. 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.

### Median rents have gone up by more than 30% since 2011.



(source: [zillow.com](#))

#### 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?*

**Quentin Palfrey:** Access to affordable housing is one of the largest challenges facing Massachusetts today. Despite a robust economy and low unemployment rate, too many people who work full time or hold down multiple jobs struggle to make ends meet because of the high cost of housing. This forces many people to make stark choices between housing and other necessities. There is also a complicated interplay between our housing policy and other challenges, such as education and transportation. Residential segregation fuels educational segregation and exacerbates cyclical poverty. Lack of affordable housing often forces people to move farther and farther away from work and school. But our underfunded and inadequate transportation system creates serious challenges in terms of getting to work and school. Additionally, we need to do much more to ensure that we are providing adequate support for our homeless population. During this month's brutal cold snap, many of our area homeless shelters were over capacity for weeks at a time. This is cruel and unacceptable.

Of note, recent Lt. Governors have played an important role in these policies. For example, in the

Patrick-Murray administration, the Lt. Governor led an interagency effort relating to housing and homelessness.

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

**Quentin Palfrey:** I have written and spoken extensively on inequality and poverty, including on the role of housing policy in addressing these concerns. Many of these articles and presentations can be found at [www.quentinpalfrey.com/policy](http://www.quentinpalfrey.com/policy).

- 3. **Funding.** Do you support increasing funding for affordable housing production (especially low-income housing units) and the Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program?*

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes.** I support increasing funding for affordable housing. The lack of availability of affordable housing in Massachusetts exacerbates inequality and puts stress on our communities.

- 4. **Housing Preservation.** Currently, certain property owners who guarantee affordable rents have been incentivized by subsidized mortgages via the 13A program. However, many of the contracts under 13A are set to expire in 2019. Do you support giving cities and towns the authority to require such apartments to remain affordable?*

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes.** The potential loss of thousands of affordable housing units due to the expiration of the 13A program would be a severe blow to low income tenants. The legislature should act without delay to pass legislation to provide critical funding to preserve the affordability of homes created under the 13A program. We should also strengthen the protections available to tenants under 40T.

- 5. **Foreclosure Prevention.** Do you support a requirement that banks mediate in good faith with homeowners to seek alternatives before beginning foreclosure proceedings?*

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes.** I support the creation of pre-foreclosure mediation programs. Mediation programs permit homeowners and lenders to reach mutually beneficial outcomes, which has a positive effect on communities and local and state housing markets.

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

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes.** I support using zoning reforms as a mechanism for increasing affordable housing and helping municipalities to fulfill their obligations to provide affordable housing. One of the key roles that the Lt. Governor can play is as a bridge between the governor's office and cities & towns. Local issues such as housing and zoning have a profound impact on people's lives. A sophisticated understanding of local circumstances is critical in these circumstances.

- 7. **Combating Speculation.** Do you support imposing a graduated tax on private real estate transactions over \$2.5 million, with the money allocated to affordable housing trust funds?*

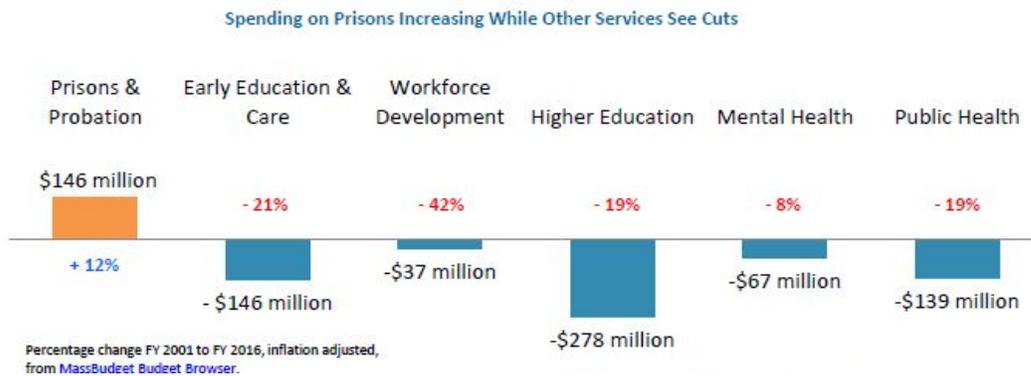
**Quentin Palfrey:** The Commonwealth should explore all reasonable means to increase affordable housing stocks and ensure that new development does not exacerbate inequality. I would support

further study of proposals to increase transfer taxes on high-value transactions to determine if such policies would help to achieve these goals.

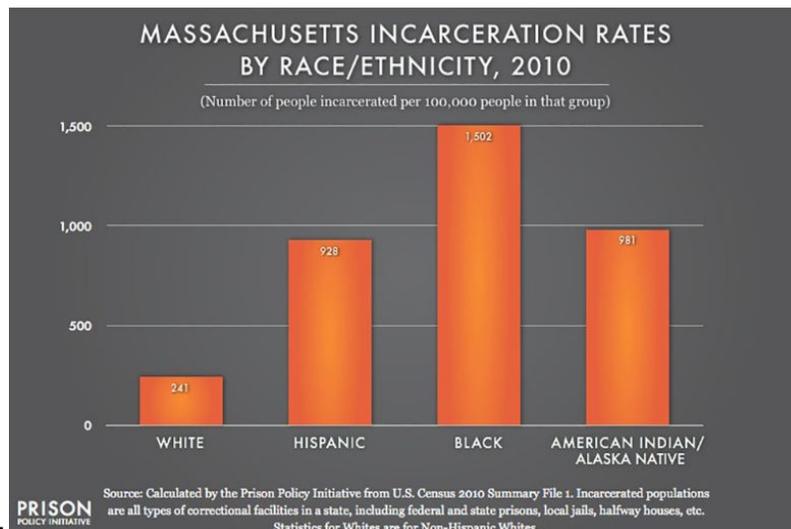
# F. RACIAL AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

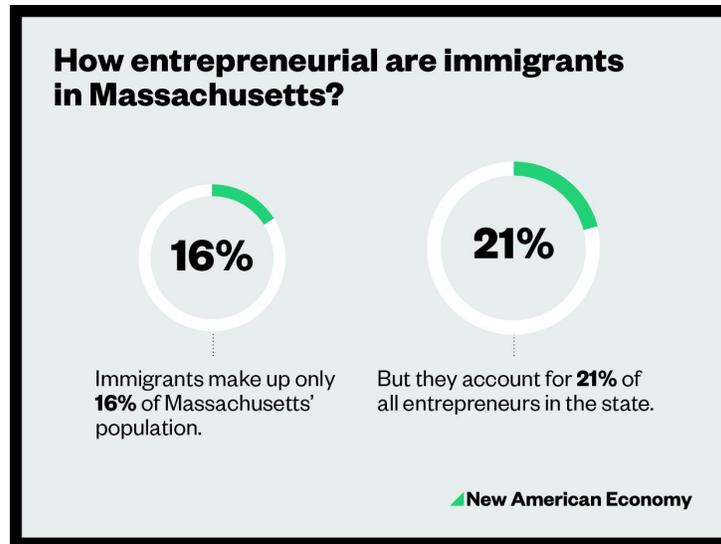
Massachusetts must continue to strive to be a state that welcomes and embraces all of its residents and combats prejudice and discrimination of all kinds. The social and economic costs of mass incarceration and the policies that created it, in particular, have put our aspirations of “justice for all” 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.*

**Quentin Palfrey:** The fight for racial and social justice has been a central motivating factor in my career and in my campaign. I believe that our diversity is our strength, and I started this campaign to stand up for the diverse and inclusive American values I believe in. I want a Massachusetts where we can tell our children with confidence that if they work hard and treat others with respect, they can succeed and help keep the American dream alive for generations to come.

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

**Quentin Palfrey:** As a voter protection advocate, I have worked throughout my career to ensure that communities of color have access to the ballot box. I also have written and spoken extensively on inequality in our education system and in our economy, and many of these articles and presentations can be found at [www.quentinpalfrey.com/policy](http://www.quentinpalfrey.com/policy).

3. *Trans Accommodations. In 2016, Massachusetts passed legislation to prevent discrimination against transgender individuals in public accommodations. Conservatives are seeking to repeal the bill on the 2018 ballot. Will you advocate for the protection of this legislation?*

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes.** Discrimination against transgender individuals is contrary to our values. The wave of so-called "bathroom bills" that have swept across the country are thinly veiled efforts to discriminate based on fear and animus and have no relation to public safety. We must stand up for civil rights.

4. *LGBTQ Youth. Our neighboring states of Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Vermont ban the use of harmful conversion therapy practices for minors. Do you support banning the use of conversion therapy in Massachusetts?*

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes.** Conversion therapy is an unscientific and harmful practice that unnecessarily stigmatizes LGBTQ youth and only exacerbates the very real mental health challenges that face their

community.

5. **Sentencing Reform.** Which of the following steps to combat mass incarceration in the Commonwealth do you support?

a. *Eliminating mandatory minimum sentences related to drug offenses*

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes**

b. *Raising the felony threshold for theft from \$250 to \$1500*

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes**

c. *Raising the age of criminal majority from 18 to 19*

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes**

d. *Promoting community based alternatives for sentencing individuals who are primary caretaker of a child*

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes.** We should work to mitigate the devastating collateral consequences of involvement in the criminal justice system. Community-based alternatives often offer a better chance at rehabilitation, reduce the risk of recidivism, and ameliorate the severely disruptive consequences of parental incarceration.

e. *Limiting the role of School Resource Officers, to curb the school-to-prison pipeline*

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes.** Especially given serious racial disparities in school disciplinary proceedings. Criminalizing everyday misbehavior in schools is wrong and only serves only to exacerbate the myriad challenges low-income and minority students face.

f. *Eliminating or reducing fees and fines that hinder reentry efforts and turn jails into debtors' prisons*

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes.** We should not criminalize poverty. I strongly support reforms to our bail and pre-trial detention systems, as well as re-entry reforms.

g. *Increasing investment in education and job training programs for the formerly incarcerated*

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes.** Rehabilitation and re-entry benefits individuals, families, and communities by helping people get back on their feet after they have paid their debt to society.

6. **Solitary Confinement.** Do you support limiting the use of solitary confinement to no more than 15 consecutive days, and eliminating the use of solitary confinement for at-risk populations, including pregnant women, LGBTQ people, those with mental illness, and those under age 21 or over age 65?

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes**

7. **Police Brutality.** Do you support the establishment of an independent review board for police shootings in the Commonwealth?

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes**

8. **Black Lives Matter.** Since 2016, in response the Black Lives Matter activists' illumination of criminal justice system abuses, conservatives have pushed a myth of a "war on cops." States such as Louisiana, Mississippi, Texas, and Kentucky have advanced "Blue Lives Matter" legislation, making law

*enforcement a protected class under hate crime statutes. In November 2017, the MA Legislature followed suit, creating a new “superpenalty” and mandatory minimum for assaulting a police officer. Would you oppose such policies, which would disproportionately punish minority communities and contribute to an overly carceral state?*

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes.** I strongly support the Black Lives Matter movement and I have deep concerns about the ways in which our criminal justice system disproportionately affects minority communities. It is important that we take appropriate measures to ensure the safety of the brave law enforcement officers who serve our communities and take on very real personal risks and sacrifices to keep our neighborhoods safe. As a former Assistant Attorney General, I have deep respect and admiration for law enforcement. But super-penalties and mandatory minimums do not advance these goals.

- 9. *Safe Communities Act.*** *Do you support 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?*

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes.** Massachusetts must be a bulwark against the Trump Administration’s unprecedented hostility toward immigrants. Aggressive immigration enforcement tactics undermine public safety by chilling cooperation with law enforcement in immigrant communities. They are antithetical to our values as Americans. We are a nation of immigrants. Our diversity is our strength. I will stand with the immigrants who are our friends, family members, and neighbors, who contribute greatly to the Massachusetts economy and who deserve to live securely without constant fear of deportation.

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

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes**

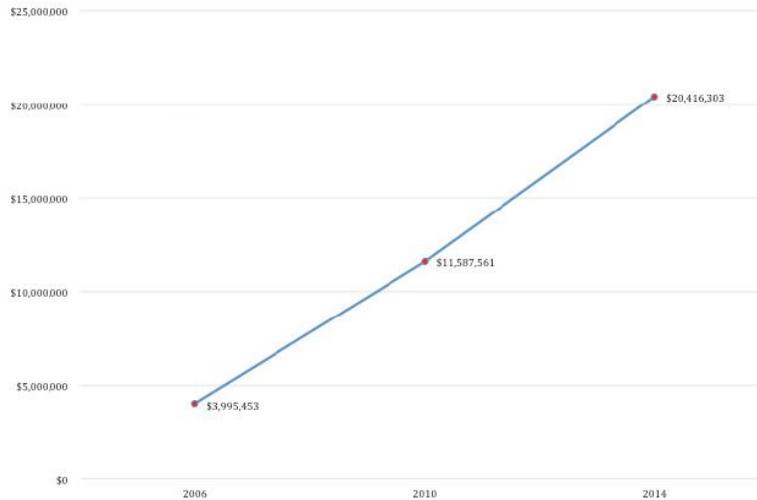
# G. GOOD GOVERNMENT/ STRONG DEMOCRACY

---

*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.**

**Quentin Palfrey:** I believe strongly that our democracy does not work properly when unfairly restrictive laws make it harder for people of color, students, and non-native English speakers to vote. These obstacles have had profound impacts on numerous elections, effectively disenfranchising communities most in need of a voice in government. Republicans have weaponized lies about voter fraud as a pretext for imposing barriers to registration and voting.

In numerous elections since 2004, I have been a leader on voter protection efforts at both the state and presidential level. I have been a prominent advocate for sensible reforms such as automatic voter registration, expanded early voting, and same day registration. In addition, I believe that the Supreme Court’s decision in Citizens United has contributed to a campaign finance environment that gives

corporations too much power in our elections — and ordinary citizens too little control over who represents them. I have advocated for a constitutional amendment to overturn this misguided decision and I have signed the American Promise 28th Amendment pledge.

2. *Please indicate work you personally have done to promote transparency, campaign finance reform, legislative rules reform, and access to voting.*

**Quentin Palfrey:** For many years, I have worked led voter protection programs of multiple campaigns to ensure that every eligible voter can vote and that every valid vote is counted. In 2008, I served as the Voter Protection Director for Barack Obama’s campaign in Ohio. In that capacity, I was responsible for putting over 4,000 lawyers in the field to ensure that residents of low-income and minority communities would be able to vote. Our voter protection efforts included litigation that went to the Ohio Supreme Court and U.S. Supreme Court. Prior to that, in 2004, I worked as a Legal Coordinator in New Hampshire for John Kerry’s Presidential campaign. In 2016, I served as Massachusetts state counsel and a senior member of New Hampshire Democratic coordinated campaign’s voter protection team. I have also written on campaign finance reform, voting rights, and use of evidence-based policy in government. Many of these articles can be found at [www.quentinpalfrey.com/policy](http://www.quentinpalfrey.com/policy).

3. *Transparency. Massachusetts is one of only two states where the governor's office claims to be completely exempt from the public records laws. Do you support ending that exemption? ?*

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes.** It is important for the governor’s office to be transparent and for the public to have access to relevant information about how important decisions are made, subject to appropriate protections for privacy, legal privilege, and ongoing deliberative processes not covered by open meeting laws.

In the Obama White House, the Office of Science & Technology Policy (where I worked) was the lead policy council in charge of ensuring that the Obama Administration was the most transparent in history. I have written and spoken repeatedly on transparency, including a critique of the Obama administration’s approach to transparency in the trade context. See, e.g., <http://thehill.com/blogs/congress-blog/foreign-policy/271678-last-chance-for-a-pro-transparencytrad-e-legacy-for-obama> and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jY52sTqqr8&t=1155s>.

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

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes.** I support the creation of a robust public financing system and other measures to reduce the influence of money in politics. Our current system allows corporations and wealthy individuals to exercise far too much influence. See <https://medium.com/@qpalfrey/lets-pass-a-constitutionalamendment-to-overturn-citizens-united-f0bf12a1c1c3>.

5. *Voting. Do you support the following policies to increase voter participation?*

a. *Election day voter registration*

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes**

b. *Automatic voter registration*

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes.** See

<https://medium.com/@qpalfrey/its-time-for-massachusetts-to-adopt-automatic-voter-registration-f56c7a0b399d>.

c. *Expansion of early voting to “off-year” elections*

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes**

d. *No-fault absentee voting*

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes**

I strongly support all of these proposals. I believe that it is critical that all citizens have a voice in our system, and if elected would work to expand voting rights.

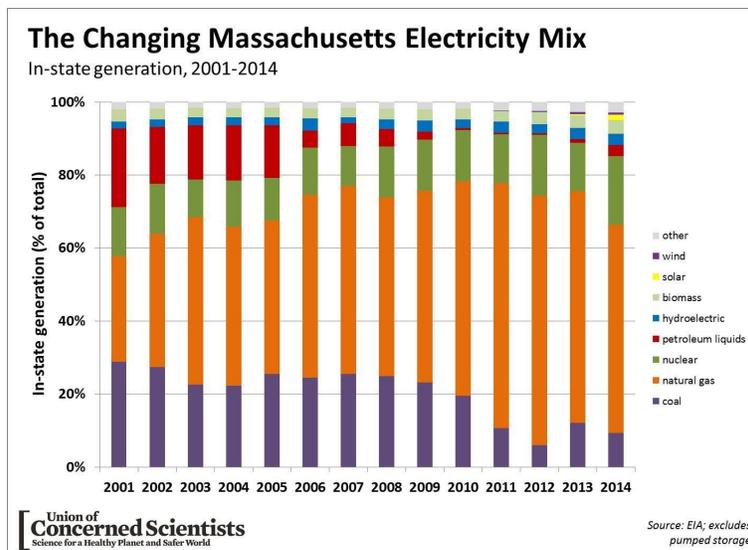
# H. Sustainable Infrastructure and Environmental Protection

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. In 2016, the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court 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.

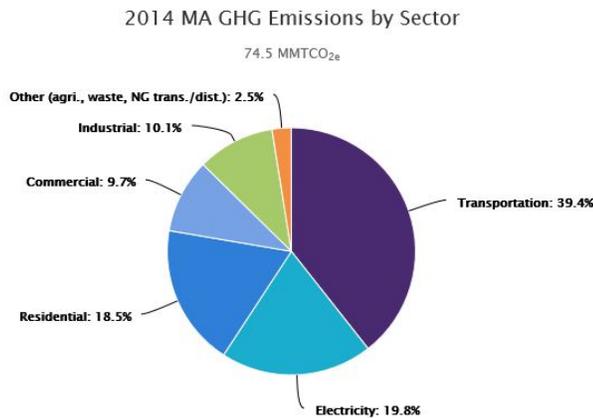
Equity issues loom large, as low-income communities and communities of color are often the most vulnerable to natural disasters and bear the brunt of pollution. In 2014, Governor Deval Patrick signed an executive order directing all state agencies to devote resources to protect the health, safety, and environment for the most vulnerable residents. However, this nominal commitment to “Environmental Justice” has been more rhetorical than real.

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.**



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

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

**Quentin Palfrey:** Combatting, preparing for, and solving global climate change is a civilization-defining challenge. We must confront the challenge head on, with resolve, pragmatism, and a can-do spirit. Massachusetts should--and must--lead the country in finding new ways to conserve and innovate. That starts with leadership at the state level and filters down to an economy and a society that values and respects our natural surroundings. I am particularly aware of the need to protect the Commonwealth's great natural resources from over-development and pollution.

Our addiction to fossil fuels needs to end. It is economically unsustainable and the chief driver of climate change. I support catalyzing climate-solving solutions by supporting a vibrant clean and renewable energy economy in Massachusetts, there is so much more we can do at the state level to expand the state's already-vibrant clean economy. The Baker-Polito Administration has not led on climate. We will.

We need massive investments in our public infrastructure, particularly in regional and urban solutions that promote efficiency and reduce gas consumptions. Improving our crumbling infrastructure and investing in mass transit is crucial for improving our environment, as well as for bolstering our economy and improving people's daily lives.

We also need to be mindful of environmental justice issues. Too often, the consequences of pollution and climate change are felt most acutely by the poorest and most vulnerable members of our society. The good news is that our environmental self-interest and our economic self-interest are aligned. By investing in clean energy, we will develop whole new industries that will fuel our economy. Because of our world-class university system and vibrant technology sector, Massachusetts is uniquely situated to create the jobs of the future. But we need to hurry up. If we don't lean in to the clean energy revolution more aggressively, the Chinese will capitalize on our delays and obtain a competitive advantage for a generation.

**2. Please indicate work you personally have done to protect the environment and expand access to public transportation.**

**Quentin Palfrey:** Towards the end of the Patrick Administration, I served under Secretary Rich Davey

as Senior Counsel for Policy & Operations and led a number of initiatives to expand access to public transportation and to improve the environment.

As an adviser to President Obama, I led numerous initiatives designed to promote American competitiveness and innovation and help pave the way for the jobs and industries of the future, including the clean energy economy.

3. **Waste Reduction.** *Would you support a statewide ban on single-use shopping bags and a requirement that alternatives be more sustainable?*

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes**

4. **Solar energy.** *Do you support increasing equitable access to solar power by removing caps on solar generation and restoring compensation for low-income and community solar?*

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes**

5. **Renewable Energy.** *Do you support a target of at least 50% clean energy by 2030 for Massachusetts, as adopted in California and New York? (Hawaii is committed to 100% renewables by 2045). To accomplish this, would you support an increase in the Renewable Energy Production Standard (the green energy mandate on utilities) by at least 3% each year?*

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes**

6. **Environmental Justice.** *Successive and bipartisan gubernatorial administrations have made verbal commitments to environmental justice (EJ) and Governor Deval Patrick issued an Executive Order on Environmental Justice in 2014 which has not been implemented.*

a. *Would you support implementing the 2014 EO?*

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes**

b. *and support efforts to codify environmental justice into law?*

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes.** We need a serious, statewide commitment to achieving climate progress, not just a piece of paper. Too often, the consequences of pollution and climate change are felt most acutely by the poorest and most vulnerable members of our society.

7. **Gas pipelines.** *Do you oppose the expansion of gas pipelines in the state?*

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes.** The Baker Administration has been far too quick to accommodate the fossil fuel industry.

8. **Carbon pricing.**

a. *Do you support putting a fee on carbon emissions?*

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes.** If implemented fairly and effectively, a tax on carbon emissions--or some other kind of cap-and-trade scheme--would provide the right incentive structure to encourage those

who do business within the Commonwealth to invest in energy solutions that benefit us all. I support targeted taxes designed to internalize the environmental harm that polluters put out into the world.

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

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes.** Absolutely.

9. **Public Transit.** *What are your top three priorities for improving access to, and reliability and quality of, the MBTA?*

**Quentin Palfrey:** My top three priorities for the MBTA are:

1. Capital investments. First and foremost, we need to invest on a modern, reliable public transportation system. This means committing revenue. The aging MBTA has suffered from years of under-investment and basic services are now collapsing. We cannot get where need to be through mere reform, and certainly not through privatization.

2. Critical safety and modernization repairs. Rider safety has unfortunately suffered as the MBTA has aged without appropriate investment. Critical infrastructure is now chronically under-served and in a dangerous state of disrepair.

3. Equitable access. Large swaths of the Boston region are critically underserved, and the transportation system only aggravates existing and deepening economic disparities. The MBTA needs leadership and vision--and that vision must bring opportunity and development to communities that are currently under-served by the T.

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

**Quentin Palfrey: Yes.** Communities deserve this flexibility and the state should provide it. As Lieutenant Governor, I would work closely with municipal and town leaders to make sure they have the support they need from the state house.

# III. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

**Limit answer to 150 words or fewer.**

*Use this space to add any other issues important to your vision for Massachusetts or any other matter you think progressive voters should know about your candidacy.*

**Quentin Palfrey:** I'm running for Lieutenant Governor because we need leaders who will fight for good jobs and fair pay, reduce inequality and poverty, and stand up against attacks on our diverse and inclusive American values.

I am proud to call Massachusetts my home. We have some of the best schools on earth and a thriving innovation economy. From health care to marriage equality, our state has led the way on progressive policy. My wife Anna and I and we are raising our three wonderful children just a few miles from where I grew up.

There is nowhere I would rather live, but we have real challenges, too. We must make sure that no one who works full time has to struggle to make ends meet; that all our children have the opportunity to get a great education without incurring massive debt; and that every eligible voter's voice can be heard.

---

END QUESTIONNAIRE