



**PROGRESSIVE MASSACHUSETTS**  
**2022 Attorney General**  
ENDORSEMENT QUESTIONNAIRE

**Candidate:** Andrea Campbell

**Office Sought:** Attorney General

**Party:** Democrat

**Website:** [www.andreacampbell.org](http://www.andreacampbell.org)

**Twitter:** @AndreaForAG

**Facebook:** @AndreaForAG

**Instagram:** @AndreaForAG

## OVERVIEW

***We view our questionnaire as an educational resource, for both candidates and voters, on progressive approaches to the issues. It provides candidates the opportunity to address a number of important issues beyond the surface talking points and provides progressive voters an extremely valuable resource when making a decision.***

Our Questionnaire starts with an “About You” section and ends with an opportunity for you to include additional remarks beyond what we asked.

The bulk of our questionnaire is focused on the issues outlined in our [Progressive Platform](#), which also inform our [Legislative Agenda](#). We are interested in your overall philosophy as well as your views on specific policy and legislation.

Each section features charts or graphs (with links to sources) that illustrate one or more facets of the issue under discussion.

*Each section contains open-ended questions and YES/NO questions. **If the question is a YES/NO question, please answer either YES or NO.** Feel free to expand your answers, but **please keep answers < 150 words.***

### **Issue Subsections:**

- A. Jobs and the Economy
- B. Education
- C. Health Care
- D. Housing
- E. Racial and Social Justice
- F. Good Government and Strong Democracy
- G. Sustainable Infrastructure and Environmental Protection

## **I. About You & Your Governing Approach**

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

I jumped into the race recognizing that residents across Massachusetts continue to struggle, and feel frustrated with government, but what I also know to be true is that we live in the greatest state in the nation, a state with so much potential and Promise.

I know it because I've lived it. My childhood was filled with incredible instability – my mother died when I was eight months old, in a car accident, going to visit my father who was incarcerated, my dad and two brothers cycled in and out of prison, and my twin brother, Andre, died while in the custody in the Department of Correction.

I'm living proof that a girl who grew up in public housing, with a family torn apart by poverty and incarceration, could turn pain into purpose. These hardships – but also the potential for hope and healing – are the very reason I was the first in my family to go to college, law school, and become a lawyer.

As an education lawyer, General Counsel at a regional planning agency, Legal Counsel for Governor Deval Patrick, and as Boston City Council President, I have spent my life and my career protecting and advocating for those who are let down by government.

I'm running for Attorney General to ensure that every resident in Massachusetts has access to the same tools and resources I had, so that they can fulfill their potential too. The Attorney General is more than the Chief Law Enforcement Officer. This office has the unique ability and power to improve outcomes for every family, worker and resident in Massachusetts.

If blessed to be elected as the next Attorney General, my priorities would include:

- First, doing everything through a racial equity lens. Candidates for office typically list racial equity and justice as one of their priorities, and yes, it should be a priority, but it should also be the norm. If we want to truly address the racial disparities that exist across Massachusetts we need to embed this lens and language in everything we do. This is, of course, something the current AG is already doing, but if blessed to become your Attorney General, I would use my lived and legal experience to bring greater intentionality to this work.
- That starts by building a diverse team – across all spectrums, age, race, gender, backgrounds, sexual orientation. I can't do this work alone, and will hire strong, experienced, lawyers to work with me. This team includes our communities. I'll continue to travel across the state to hear directly from residents about what they need to thrive.
- And together, we will leverage the legal tools of the AG's office to ensure our children have access to an excellent education, our families have access to high quality, affordable healthcare, our families have access to healthcare, a living wages, tools to grow their wealth, to buy or stay in their homes, our residents, especially seniors, are protected from

predatory practices and scams, our public safety agencies are diverse, transparent, and held accountable, and so much more.

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

My lived, legal, and elected experience sets me apart from the rest of the field and will make me the right candidate to build on the legacy of the current Attorney General.

After earning my law degree, I worked as a legal services attorney for the EdLaw project, defending the rights of children and their families – particularly those with disabilities – for free.

I served the public as General Counsel at the Metropolitan Area Planning Commission, working across 101 cities and towns to address regional challenges like health care access, transportation, affordable housing, and climate change.

I served as legal counsel to Governor Deval Patrick, working to improve our education and transportation systems and move forward an agenda of equity across the state.

In 2015, I successfully ran for the Boston City Council becoming the first woman to represent District 4 on the Council. In 2018, I was unanimously elected City Council President – the first Black woman to hold the title.

## **3. The Attorney General has a powerful platform for influencing state legislation. What would be your top legislative priorities if elected, and how would you work to pass them?**

I will fight to pass the wage theft prevention legislation at the State House. This legislation is sponsored by Senator Sal DiDomenico and Representative Dan Donahue, both of whom have endorsed me in this race.

I'm proud to be the only candidate in this race who has worked to pass legislation at the State House, and will continue to strongly advocate for legislation that protects workers, families, seniors, and residents. I'll do so by leveraging my relationships on Beacon Hill and working with the more than 90 elected officials who have endorsed my race for AG.

## **4. What do you view the role of the office of the AG in protecting Massachusetts's interests on the national level?**

Much like our current Attorney General was able to bring national attention to the state's opioid crisis, I would continue to use this office as a platform to intentionally lift up issues – especially issues that all too often affect our immigrants and communities of color.

## **5. What are your thoughts on striking the appropriate balance between the Attorney General's role as the lawyer representing the state's officials and the AG's role as an independently elected government official? For example, under what circumstances would you as AG decline to follow the wishes of a state client?**

As Attorney General, I would look at these cases one by one and work with the experienced lawyers and staff within the office to ensure that we are promoting racial equity, transparency, accountability and justice. Additionally, I would hold our state agencies to the highest ethical standards.

**6. The Attorney General is the state's top law enforcement official and, in that role, will often partner with state police for investigations and prosecutions. This creates an inevitable conflict with relation to investigating actions done by state police. How would you address this conflict?**

As stated above, I would hold all of our state agencies, including the state police, to the highest ethical standards, and where a conflict arises, I would address it appropriately.

**7. Provide an example of a time that you built a broad coalition to achieve a desired policy outcome.**

In 2016, as a Boston City Councilor, I was the lead sponsor of the Community Preservation Act, which activated a coalition of housing, environmental advocates, faith leaders, residents, and other stakeholders to pass this historic legislation which is still generating millions of dollars annually for affordable housing, parks, green space, and historic preservation.

**8. Did Attorney General Healey join any amicus briefs with other attorneys general that you would not have joined or vice versa? Which one(s), and why?**

I believe our current Attorney General has built a strong foundation of advocating for justice on all levels including joining amicus briefs and national conversations related to protecting our democracy, voting rights, and reproductive rights. On day one, I would begin to engage the lawyers and staff within the office about this issue.

## II. The Issues

### A. Jobs and the Economy

Massachusetts ranks as one of the top ten [most unequal states](#), as the gains from economic growth have disproportionately benefited the already well-off. Compounding this, we are one of the most expensive states in the country for [health care](#), [housing](#), and [child care](#), all of which strain wages. A strong economy depends on strong wages, as workers spend and help local economies thrive. Although the recently passed minimum wage increase will eventually lift the minimum wage to \$15 per hour, this is [still not a living wage](#) for many.

In recent decades, unions have been under attack. However, unions played—and continue to play—a pivotal role in creating a strong middle class. With weaker unions (or no unions at all) come weaker social and economic rights and an imbalanced economy.

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



#### Wages for most MA workers have remained stagnant since the Great Recession.



**1. Please explain your principles and proposals relative to this issue, and what work you personally have done to advance them (legislation, community work, published writings, etc.)**

Throughout my life and career, I have stood up for workers and firmly believe every worker is entitled to a fair wage and good benefits. I will fight tirelessly against employer wage theft. We need to change the behavior of companies that take advantage of workers – in every industry, from the gig economy to the trades.

As a Boston City Councilor, I repeatedly stood with working people to call for fair contracts and job protection, including standing with hotel workers laid off during the pandemic and UNITE HERE Local 26 workers striking for fair contracts, authoring a resolution that passed the Council unanimously calling for transparency and better analysis from the MBTA on service cuts to commuter rail lines, hiring union labor for the Mattapan Jazz & Unity Festival, and standing with graduate students and others in their organizing efforts.

As AG, I will champion all workers. And I'll do so with a big tent – bringing each party to the table to have conversations on how we can respond to the gig economy and change behavior so bad actors don't deprive our workers of basic rights and protections.

**2. Combating Wage Theft. The Attorney General's Fair Labor Division ensures workers are paid the wages they are owed and that businesses that play by the rules don't get undercut by competitors who save costs at the expense of their workers. The AG's office has succeeded at collecting funds from employers from employers who violated the law and returned the money to impacted workers; however, for many workers, the money comes months after they have earned the wages. What would you do as AG to prevent bad employers from continuing to operate and deny workers the wages to which they are entitled?**

First, let me be clear and call wage theft exactly what it is: abuse of our workers. After a hard day's work, everyone deserves the pay they deserve with the benefits they're entitled to. As Attorney General, I'll hold these contractors accountable so that all workers have a meaningful chance of recovering their wages. We need to increase resources and hire more staff, pass wage theft legislation at the State House, and change behavior so bad actors don't deprive our workers of basic rights and protections.

**3. Protecting All Workers. Declining union density—private-sector union membership was a mere 6.2% in 2019 (BLS 2020)—increases the risk of labor law violations: Workers not covered by union contracts are almost twice as likely to experience minimum wage violations as those in a union or covered by a union contract. Meanwhile, available resources for enforcement of workplace laws are insufficient, both at the federal and state levels. What will you do to protect and defend wage protections for nonunion workers?**

As Attorney General, I would fight to protect all workers whether unionized or not because I truly believe everyone deserves access to the benefits and wages they are entitled to.

4. **Union Protections. How will your office expand the rights of unions to represent and organize workers?**

I am a strong supporter of worker's rights, and believe every worker is entitled to fair wages with great benefits, and, as I did on the Boston City Council, I would work with unions to protect every worker's right to collectively bargain.

5. **Occupational Safety. Assuming the recurrence of another pandemic, what role can the AG play in expanding enforcement of existing occupational safety and health laws?**

The pandemic has changed us. Many have lost loved ones, their jobs, and are wondering how they will ever make it through. A key part of this is ensuring our workers and residents are safe. As Attorney General, I would strongly enforce occupational safety and health laws, just as I did on the Boston City Council.

6. **Unsafe Workplace Conditions. AG Healey established a process by which workers could report concerns about unsafe working conditions, with the option to remain anonymous. How will you expand the ability of workers to report conditions without fear of reprisal?**

I would continue the work under our current Attorney General to ensure all employees have the ability to report conditions without fear of reprisal and with the option to remain anonymous.

7. **Fighting Discrimination in the Workplace. How will your office strengthen enforcement of laws ensuring that individuals are not being discriminated against in hiring or promotions for reasons of race, ethnicity, gender, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, ability, or national origin?**

As Boston City Council President, I brought the Council through its first-ever racial equity training to establish a deeper understanding of racism and racial inequities in Boston's history and strategies to lead and legislate with an equity lens. I'm committed to continuing this work as Attorney General, and one of my top priorities will be to build a diverse team to do this work together and to ensure that our discrimination laws across the state are being enforced and Medical Leave Act, and enforcement of Massachusetts' new equal pay law.

8. **Fighting Sexual Harassment in the Workplace. How will your office strengthen protections against sexual harassment?**

As mentioned above, I would do the same in sexual harassment cases building upon my work as a Councilor where I advocated for the City of Boston to do better in



addressing issues of sexual assault, sexual harassment, and domestic violence.

9. **Disability Rights in the Workplace. How will your office strengthen the opportunities afforded to people with disabilities during the pandemic, such as access to remote work?**

Even though we have disability laws, including the ADA, we still know there is a lot of work to do to ensure they are implemented across state agencies. I would make this a top priority as your next Attorney General. Because in the end, it's about equity, access and justice for this community too.

10. **One Fair Wage. Do you support eliminating the subminimum wage for tipped workers? (Y/N)**

YES.

11. **Wage Transparency. Would you support legislation requiring the submission of wage data to a public database maintained by the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development and broken down by gender and race? (Y/N)**

YES.

12. **Fair Scheduling. Many workers in the service sector face irregular working hours, making it difficult to plan for other life events. Would you support legislation providing workers the right to 14 days advance notice of hours and the right to request specific hours without retaliation from the employer? (Y/N)**

YES.

13. **Mandatory Arbitration. Would you support legislation to prohibit the use of mandatory arbitration provisions in employment contracts, i.e., requirements that an employee forfeit the right to sue the employer for discrimination, nonpayment of wages, or other illegal conduct? (Y/N)**

[Candidate left answer blank]

14. **Gig Economy. More than 200,000 workers in Massachusetts now work in the "gig economy," with the rise of app-based platforms. However, their employers often seek to evade labor law in order to avoid treating them as employees and provide decent pay and benefits.**

- a. **Do you oppose the November 2022 ballot initiative backed by Uber and Lyft to rewrite current state labor law to exclude hundreds of thousands of workers from fundamental rights and protections? (Y/N)**

YES. I will vote “no” on the ballot question and believe all app-based workers should be properly classified as employees not independent contractors.

**b. How would your office work to expand the rights of such gig workers?**

It’s not enough to just vote down the ballot question. We need to change the behavior of companies that take advantage of workers – in every industry, from the gig economy to the trades. As AG, I will stand up, fight for, and champion all workers.

And I’ll do so with a big tent – bringing each party to the table. To have conversations on how we can respond to the gig economy and change behavior so bad actors don’t deprive our workers of basic rights and protections.

15. **Corporate Consolidation. What would be your office’s approach to the increasing monopolization of numerous sectors of the economy, which is bad for workers and consumers?**

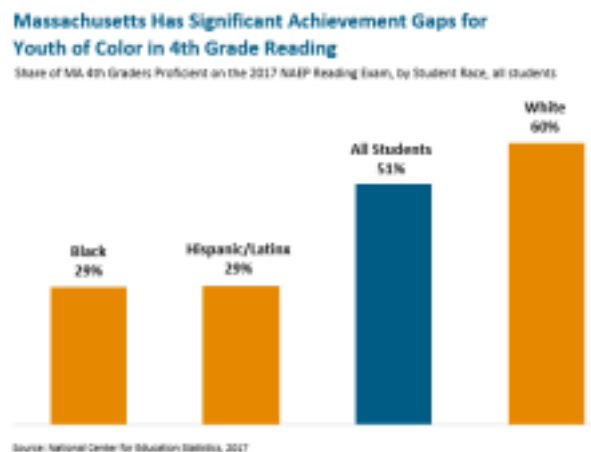
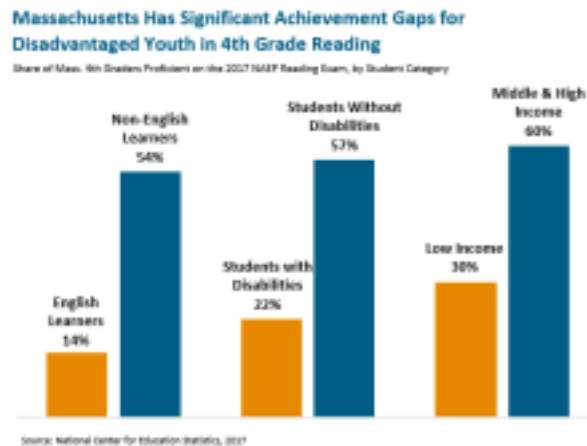
[Candidate left answer blank]

## B. 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. Although our public education system gets high marks overall, it remains one of the [most unequal](#) in the country. Powerful corporate interests are promoting false solutions and working to undermine public schools, teachers, and unions. These groups invest 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. Costly, mandated standardized test results are used to label schools as “failing” and justify these privatization schemes. State receiverships in struggling school districts advance a privatization agenda by disenfranchising voters through stripping those they elect of their power to represent them.

Most of the [fastest-growing occupations](#) require education beyond a high school diploma, but Massachusetts has been disinvesting from public higher education for the past two decades. This has led to higher tuition costs, putting students at risk of long-term debt or making higher education out of reach for them entirely.

### Massachusetts has significant achievement gaps reflective of resource gaps.



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

**Massachusetts Has Cut Spending on Higher Ed. by 8 Percent Since FY 2001**

State spending on higher education, FY 2001-2020 adjusted to inflation (2020 \$)



Note: FY 2007 total is adjusted downwards to account for the fact that significant funding during this year was for capital investments that supported activity during other fiscal years.

1. **Please explain your principles and proposals relative to this issue, and what work you personally have done to advance them (legislation, community work, published writings, etc.).**

The way to stop the cycle of poverty, incarceration, and crime – starts with investing in our kids – and there's no better investment than education. Growing up, I attended five public schools. They saved me – and provided me with the opportunity to be the first in my family to go to college, law school and become a lawyer.

I am the only candidate in this race who has represented children in education cases for free. As an education lawyer, I worked to ensure all students received an excellent education and services, especially those children in the disability community.

During my time on the Boston City Council, I introduced the Action for Boston Children (ABC) Plan, a comprehensive plan to create more access for every child to receive an excellent education, especially those with disabilities.

As Attorney General, I'll continue to advocate for our children. But more than that, I'll embrace families, teachers, and communities as true partners. We must think about the whole child, while still demanding that we build a system that closes the achievement and opportunity gap and delivers that best chance for our kids to succeed.

2. **Fair Share. Do you support the proposed constitutional amendment to increase the tax on income over \$1 million by 4%, with the resulting revenue devoted to education and transportation needs (Fair Share Amendment)? (Y/N)**  

YES.
3. **Equal Education Access for All. What would your office do to protect the right of all children to a high-quality public education?**

The way to stop the cycle of poverty, incarceration, and crime – starts with investing in our kids – and there’s no better investment than education. Growing up, I attended five public schools. They saved me – and provided me with the opportunity to be the first in my family to go to college, law school and become a lawyer.

I am the only candidate in this race who has represented children in education cases for free. As an education lawyer, I worked to ensure all students received an excellent education and services, especially those children in the disability community.

During my time on the Boston City Council, I introduced the Action for Boston Children (ABC) Plan, a comprehensive plan to create more access for every child to receive an excellent education, especially those with disabilities.

As Attorney General, I’ll continue to advocate for our children. But more than that, I’ll embrace families, teachers, and communities as true partners. We must think about the whole child, while still demanding that we build a system that closes the achievement and opportunity gap and delivers that best chance for our kids to succeed

4. **Education Privatization.** In 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 school districts.

a. Do you support keeping the cap on charter schools? (Y/N)

NO.

b. Existing charter schools in Massachusetts have been known to have [notoriously high suspension rates](#) and [questionable real estate practices](#). How would your office ensure greater accountability for the charter school sector?

I am the only candidate in this race who has represented students for free in education cases including IEP cases and school discipline cases against traditional public schools and charter schools to ensure our children were receiving the services they were entitled to. This fierce advocacy would not change when I’m Attorney General. I am on the record supporting charter schools.

5. **Receivership.** The Lawrence Public Schools, Holyoke Public Schools, and Southbridge Public Schools are currently under state receivership, with a state-appointed receiver assuming the powers of a superintendent or democratically elected school committee. The state takeover has not produced sustainable gains and has at times been characterized by [chronic mismanagement](#). Would you support ending the practice of state receivership and returning power to democratically elected school committees? (Y/N)

[Candidate left answer blank]

6. **Debt-Free College**. Do you support making tuition (and mandatory curriculum fees) free at public colleges and universities? (Y/N)

YES.

7. **Student Borrowers -- I**. The Student Loan Borrower's Bill of Rights (SLBBOR) has been implemented, and the Student Loan Ombudsperson Office now exists within the Office of the Attorney General. What are your plans to ensure strong enforcement of the SLBBOR?

I would continue the work of our current Attorney General, in partnership with those doing the work within the office and community stakeholders to strongly enforce the SLBBOR.

8. **Student Borrowers -- II**. Would you be willing to decertify private servicers of federal student loans with records of state SLBBOR violations and poor behavior even if that may cause legal conflicts with the US Department of Education? (Y/N)

YES.

9. **Student Borrowers -- III**. Would you be willing to file legislation to provide additional authority to the Office of the Attorney General to address student loan-related issues if you felt existing authority was insufficient? (Y/N)

YES.

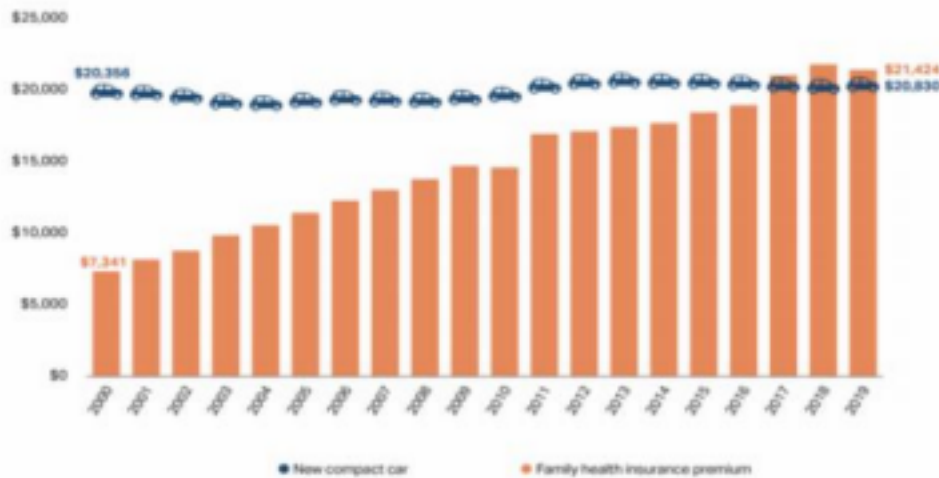
### C. Health Care

Massachusetts has led the way in providing near universal health insurance coverage, with [97% of the state](#) having health insurance. But until that is 100%, we haven't reached truly universal coverage or tackled critical barriers to accessing care. Disparities in insurance coverage and health care access continue to exist along income, racial, and education lines. Premiums continue to rise, and high deductibles mean that many do not get the health care they need—or suffer from long-lasting debt if they do. We still spend an oversized portion of public and private money on health care, but without necessarily achieving better health outcomes. The pandemic has put a spotlight on these health care inequities and the need to invest in a stronger public health infrastructure and be more resilient for the pandemics and challenges of the future.

**Massachusetts health insurance premiums have skyrocketed over the past two decades.**

#### Massachusetts health insurance premiums have tripled in 19 years and consume an ever-larger portion of earnings for middle class families.

Average total cost for Massachusetts family health insurance premiums and national cost of a new compact car

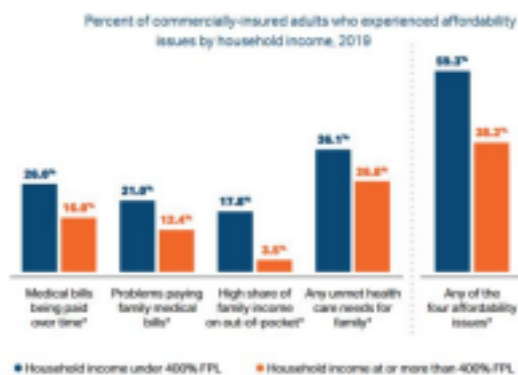


The share of middle-class commercially-insured Massachusetts families with more than 1/3 of total earnings going to health care rose from 28% in 2013-2015 to 33% in 2016-2018.

Notes: Data are in nominal dollars of the year shown.  
 Sources: Family Health Insurance premiums are for Massachusetts from the Agency for Health Care Quality – Medical Expenditure Panel Survey, Insurance Component. Car cost information is based on car-specific inflation from the BLS and the compact car price index from Kelley Blue Book.  
<https://www.ama-assn.org/news-releases/average-new-car-prices-up-nearly-6-percent-year-over-year-for-may-2019-according-to-kelley-blue-book-20190718.aspx>  
 Earnings calculation includes employer premium contribution in both health care payments and in earnings total. See Massachusetts HPC 2019 Annual Cost Trends Report (p. 15).



**Many MA residents face difficulty paying health care bills.**



- 1. Please explain your principles and proposals relative to this issue, and what work you personally have done to advance them (legislation, community work, published writings, etc.).**

Massachusetts has some of the best hospitals in the nation, yet also some of the greatest disparities in healthcare. As Attorney General, I will tackle health inequities head on and ensure everyone has access to the high-quality, affordable care they need, including mental health services, no matter who you are or where you live. I will also be intentional in addressing racial disparities in healthcare.

- 2. Single Payer. Do you support legislation to enact a single payer health care system in Massachusetts, which would guarantee health insurance as a right? (Y/N)**

NO.

- 3. Hospital Consolidation. What would you do to bring greater scrutiny to hospital mergers and ensure that patients do not have to travel extraordinary distances for care?**

We need to eradicate systemic health disparities across Massachusetts. That means using the full power of the Antitrust Division of the Health Care & Fair Competition Bureau to closely review each hospital merger.

- 4. Reproductive Justice—I. Would you support legislation requiring health insurance plans to cover all pregnancy care, including abortion care, prenatal care, childbirth, and postpartum care, without any kind of cost-sharing? (Y/N)**

YES.

- 5. Reproductive Justice—II. Would you support the creation of an uncompensated care program to reimburse abortion providers for services they provide to individuals without other means of paying for care, including those individuals traveling from out of state howould have qualified for MassHealth if they lived in the state? (Y/N)**



YES.

6. **Menstrual Equity. Would you support providing access to free menstrual products in schools, shelters, and prisons? (Y/N)**

YES.

7. **Crisis Pregnancy Centers. Crisis pregnancy centers present themselves as information resource centers for pregnant individuals, but instead seek to dissuade individuals from having abortions, often by giving them medical misinformation in addition to moral pressure. What is the role of the AG in countering such misrepresentation and misinformation?**

I will seek to root out corruption and those that seek to profit from our pain at every level including using every resource in the office from the Health Care & Fair Competition Bureau to the Consumer Protection Bureau to counter misinformation.

8. **Opioid Crisis. What do you view as the role of the AG in the state's response to the opioid crisis?**

This crisis touches nearly every corner of the Commonwealth and requires a regional response – with health care experts, community leaders, law enforcement, activists, labor, those in the recovery community and with lived experiences, all at the table. As AG, I'll continue to take on the pharmaceutical companies profiting off this crisis, I'll hold bad actors accountable, and ensure everyone has the resources they need to find healing and recovery. It also requires us to look at more than opioids. This crisis is compounded by the dozens of illegal drugs harming communities, and all too often, communities of color. These illegal drugs are also causing harm, and as AG I'll take these on too.

9. **Harm Reduction. An essential part of addressing the opioid crisis, safe consumption sites allow medical professionals to respond to overdoses and engage participants in medical and behavioral health services. Would you support the legalization of SCSs? (Y/N)**

NO.

10. **Pandemic Response. How would you evaluate the state's response to the COVID-19 pandemic? What role do you see for the AG in ensuring a better response to future crises?**

The pandemic has changed us. Many have lost loved ones, their jobs, and are wondering how they will ever make it through. Although we've tackled the pandemic better than most states, we've got to remain vigilant against the virus. It's staggering to think that we have some of the best healthcare systems in the nation, yet some of the greatest disparities. As Attorney General, I'll work to ensure every

community is not only safe, but more resilient and prepared for the next pandemic – especially communities of color and low-income communities.

11. **Community Benefits**. As AG, you are responsible for oversight of public charities and hospital community benefits. A few years ago, the AG created a task force to review hospital community benefits and align investment with the social determinants of health. While some hospitals have improved community benefits investment in key areas, overall investment in critical areas such as housing, addiction services, and mental health has not increased. What would you do as Attorney General to encourage greater investment in community benefits by non profit hospitals?

I would encourage them to invest more and direct those resources to close disparities in healthcare.

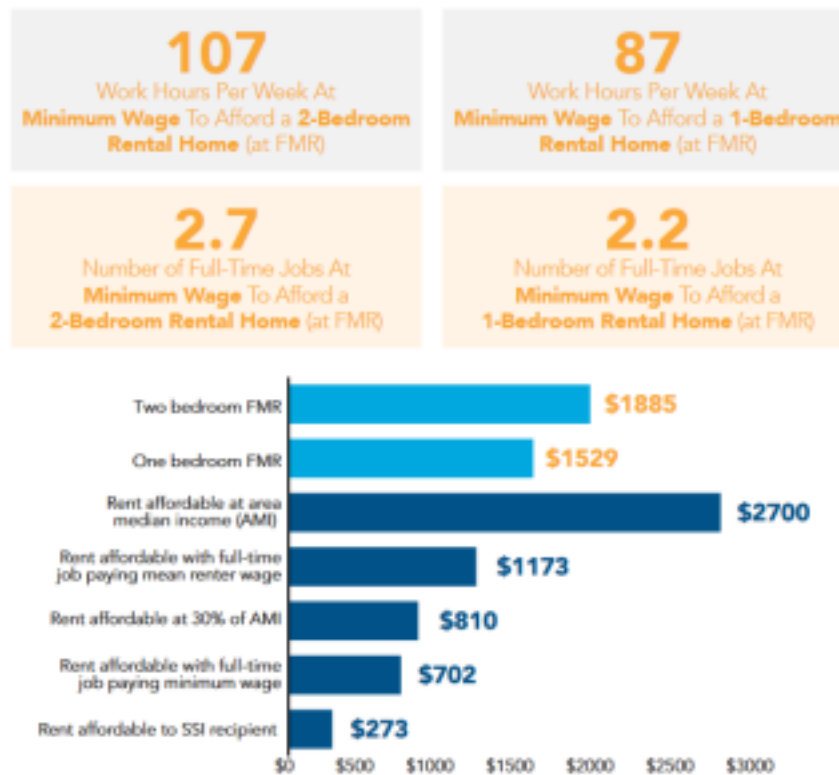
12. **Health Equity**. In 2020, the AG's Office issued a [report](#) on building toward racial justice and equity in health. How would you build on such work?

As Attorney General, I will tackle health inequities head on and ensure everyone has access to the high-quality, affordable care they need, including mental health services, no matter who you are or where you live. I will also be intentional in addressing racial disparities in healthcare.

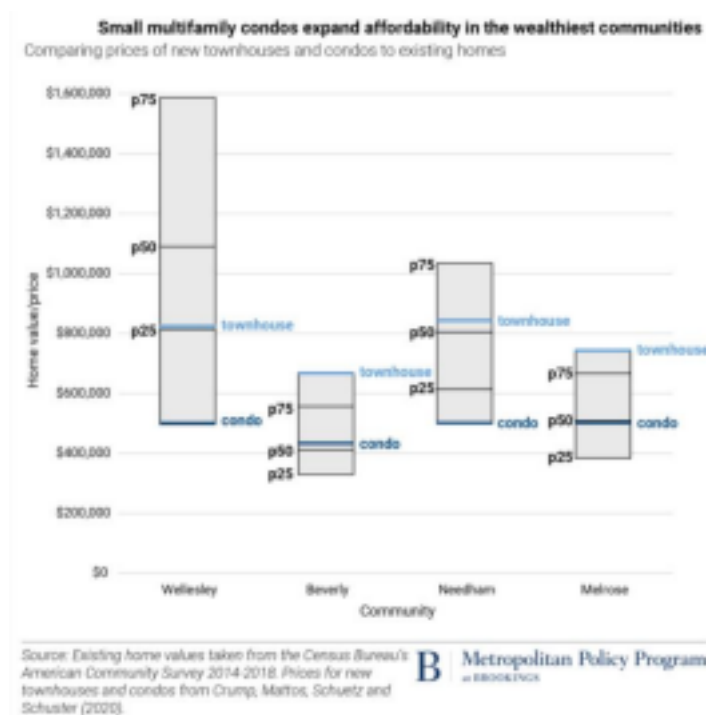
## D. Housing

Massachusetts has a lot to offer, but that does little if people can't afford to live here. The [US News & World Report's annual state rankings](#) put Massachusetts at #40 in housing affordability (and #47 in cost of living). A worker earning minimum wage in Massachusetts would have to work [87 hours a week](#) to afford a modest one-bedroom rental home at market rate (and 107 hours for a modest two-bedroom). 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. 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.

**With rental increases far outpacing wage increases, many are left with housing instability.**



**The overreliance of single-family housing in suburban development, as opposed to denser or multi-family housing, makes communities unaffordable.**



1. **Please explain your principles and proposals relative to this issue, and what work you personally have done to advance them (legislation, community work, published writings, etc.).**

Affordable housing and homeownership is a critical building block that allows for upward mobility and opportunity, but for too many it is out of reach. That's why the first ordinance I co-sponsored as a City Councilor was the Community Preservation Act which continues to generate hundreds of millions of dollars to successfully fund projects for affordable housing, green space, and historic preservation.

2. **Reducing Homelessness. What role can the AG play in reducing the number of individuals experiencing homelessness and addressing the daily indignities and systemic problems unhoused individuals face?**

I would use all available tools within the office, including potential settlement funds, to increase access to affordable housing, and I would think creatively on other ways to address this issue just as I did on the Boston City Council when I, for example, worked with partners at the state and local level to activate vacant lots for community purposes including affordable housing.

3. **Tenant Protections. Would you support legislation to provide municipalities with the authority to implement rent-stabilizing regulations, just cause eviction protections, stronger condominium conversion and foreclosure protections, anti-displacement zones, and options to help tenants manage the upfront costs of leasing an apartment? (Y/N)**

YES.

4. **Tenant Opportunity to Purchase**. Would you support legislation to provide tenants of small, medium, and large multifamily properties with right of first refusal when the owner plans to put a building on the market, provided that they can make a bona fide offer to match the asking price in a reasonable period of time? (Y/N)

YES.

5. **Right to Counsel**. Would you support legislation to provide legal representation for low-income tenants in eviction proceedings? (Y/N)

YES.

6. **Eviction Protections**. What would you do to prevent extralegal evictions and other abuses of tenant rights that are a particular problem for immigrants and people who sublet rooms from intermediaries (often referred to as "encargados")?

YES.

7. **Voucher Discrimination**. What would your office do to combat discrimination against individuals with housing vouchers?

[Candidate left answer blank]

8. **Safe Housing**. What would your office do to hold accountable landlords who are repeatedly found to violate the state sanitary code, endanger safety and health of tenants and communities, etc?

[Candidate left answer blank]

9. **Predatory Lending**. What would your office do to address predatory lending practices, such as those that gave rise to the foreclosure crisis of the late 2000s?

[Candidate left answer blank]

10. **Eviction Sealing**. Eviction records create lasting stigma, are prone to error and impair access to stable housing.

- a. **Would you support legislation to seal eviction records so that both tenants and landlords can move on with their lives?** (Y/N)

YES.

- b. **Would you support, even without new legislation, forcing the courts to create a process to remove from public online court records the names of**

**minors who are erroneously named as defendants in eviction cases?**

[Candidate left answer blank]

**11. Discriminatory Zoning. What is the role of the AG in preventing discriminatory zoning and land use practices at the municipal level?**

As Attorney General, I will work to protect renters and homeowners as we recover from COVID, and enforce our fair housing laws so that everyone can buy and stay in their home. We must remove barriers to affordability, hold those who stand in the way accountable, and think creatively about new ways to make Massachusetts more livable and affordable. We can ensure that our children have a safe and healthy place to live by removing lead paint from our houses. And we can stop discrimination by realtors, ensure every tenant knows and understands their rights, remove language barriers for tenants who need it, work to prevent discriminatory zoning and land use practices, and so much more.

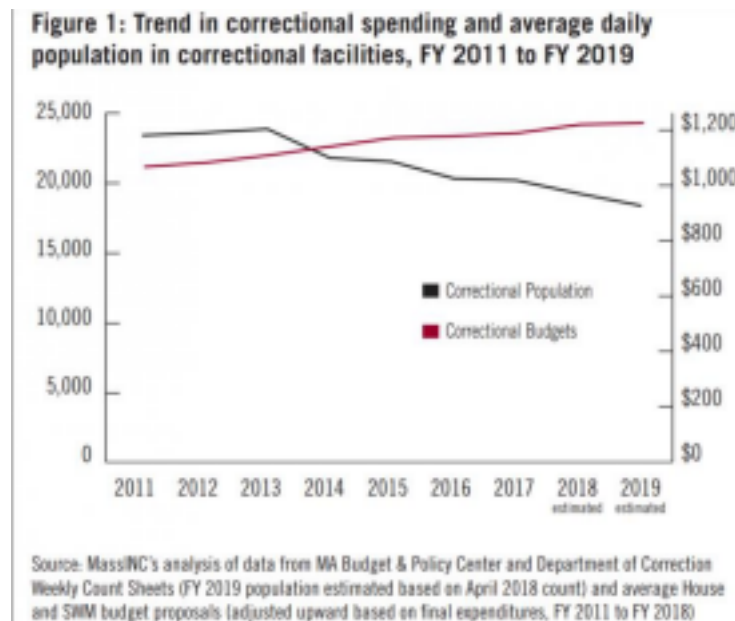
## E. Racial and Social Justice

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, especially on the systemic and institutional level.

Mass incarceration in Massachusetts has proven socially and economically destructive, breaking apart communities across the state. From 2011 to 2016, [spending on prisons](#) grew faster than any other part of the Massachusetts budget, while funding for necessary services languished. The average cost per year to house an individual in the Massachusetts Department of Corrections is [more than \\$60,000](#), money that could be better reinvested into the communities that have suffered from decades of misguided and racially discriminatory “tough on crime” policies. To achieve “justice for all,” we need a judicial system that does not disproportionately target communities of color and the poor and that does not criminalize public health issues such as addiction.

Immigrants make up 16% of Massachusetts’s population; however, demagoguery against, or indifference to, immigrant populations has historically been a mainstay of Massachusetts politics. Even though the administration in Washington has changed, we have seen a deportation agenda from both Democratic and Republican presidents, and it is important for states like Massachusetts to take leadership in protecting and advancing the rights of our immigrant communities and making clear that all are welcome.

### **The correctional population in Massachusetts has declined, yet the state continues to increase the Department of Corrections budget.**



**Significant racial disparities exist in incarceration in Massachusetts.**

Imprisonment by Race/Ethnicity (2019)	
White imprisonment rate (per 100,000)	63
Black imprisonment rate (per 100,000)	466
Hispanic imprisonment rate (per 100,000)	260
Racial/Ethnic Disparity in Imprisonment (2019)	
Black : white ratio	7.4
Hispanic : white ratio	4.1
Juvéniles in Custody (2015)	
Total juveniles in custody	309
Committed	168
Detained	135
Diverted	0
Juvenile custody rate (per 100,000)	0
White custody rate (per 100,000)	10
Black custody rate (per 100,000)	166
Latino custody rate (per 100,000)	117
American Indian custody rate (per 100,000)	0
Asian custody rate	0

- Please explain your principles and proposals relative to this issue, and what work you personally have done to advance them (legislation, community work, published writings, etc.).**

I have a clear record on public safety and police reform. If the next Attorney General is going to ensure our residents' faith in our justice system, it's essential that we encourage transparency and accountability – and throughout my public service career I have demonstrated a strong commitment to exactly that.

I have been on the record calling to end qualified immunity for police officers. I believe no one is above the law, no matter what your job title is, and would stand firm on this position if elected as Attorney General.

As a Boston City Councilor, I have worked with partners at the State House, including Governor Baker, to secure line-item funding for investments in community policing.

I established the first-ever system of civilian oversight over the Boston Police Department. In 2020, I spearheaded legislation on the Boston City Council to create an independent civilian review board to provide accountability over the Boston Police Department and investigate complaints of police misconduct, which ultimately passed as an ordinance establishing an Office of Police Accountability and Transparency, in partnership with Mayor Walsh based on recommendations from the Boston Police Reform Task Force.

I have led efforts for the City and Boston Police Department to adopt use of police



body-worn cameras. In 2016, I led policy and community engagement discussions to push for the Boston Police Department to pilot a body-worn camera program and then pushed to make use of body cameras permanent. As Chair of the Council's Committee on Public Safety & Criminal Justice, I held citywide meetings on police body cameras to ensure the department's policy was informed by residents.

I spearheaded the fight to increase diversity in our public safety agencies. For years I have pushed the City to adopt new policies and practices to increase the number of women and people of color in our police, fire, and EMS departments, including ending discriminatory hiring and promotional practices like the hair drug test and police promotional exam, expanding the police cadet program and establishing a fire cadet program, resourcing diversity officers to increase ability to recruit women and people of color, and expanding language preference to increase hiring of multilingual and immigrant officers.

As Attorney General, I would continue that leadership and push for greater transparency, reform, accountability, and diversity in our public safety departments.

2. **Reform-Minded DAs -- I. The past few years have seen a growing effort for reform in District Attorney Offices around the country. What lessons from such effort would you incorporate into your work as Attorney General?**

[Candidate left answer blank]

3. **Reform-Minded DAs -- II. What would you do as Attorney General to support the efforts of reform-minded DAs at the county level to adopt more holistic approaches to public safety?**

[Candidate left answer blank]

4. **Gang Databases. Would you support municipal efforts to end local police departments' gang databases, which have been documented to be highly inaccurate and racist? (Y/N)**

YES.

5. **Police Accountability. The 2020 police accountability legislation passed by the Massachusetts Legislature contained a number of steps forward, but important measures were left out. Would you support legislation to do the following?**

- a. **Eliminating qualified immunity for state and local police and correctional officers so that individuals whose constitutional rights are violated can have their fair day in court? (Y/N)**

YES.

- b. **Supporting strict regulations on government use of face surveillance like those initially enacted by the House and Senate in 2020, before Governor Baker rejected them? (Y/N)**

YES.

- c. **Requiring a vote by a local legislative body (city council, town meeting) before a municipality can acquire military or surveillance equipment? (Y/N)**

YES.

- d. **Directing an independent investigation of the Massachusetts State Police Commonwealth Fusion Center, to determine whether it has engaged in investigations of protected First Amendment activity or otherwise improperly collected, accessed, or shared information about people not suspected of engaging in criminal activity? (Y/N)**

[Candidate left answer blank]

- e. **Reforming the law regarding the Civil Service Commission so it no longer has power over the hiring or firing of police officers in Massachusetts? (Y/N)**

YES.

6. **Alternative Crisis Response. Would you support legislation creating a grant program through the Executive Office of Health and Human Services to increase funding for non-law-enforcement, unarmed community-based response personnel to respond to emergency calls? (Y/N)**

YES.

7. **Sentencing Reform. The 2018 criminal justice reform bill was an important first step in reducing mass incarceration. However, in our “liberal” state, incarceration rates remain much higher than they are in other countries, and sentencing laws can be even more punitive than those in states viewed as conservative. Do you support the following reforms?**

- a. **Eliminating mandatory minimums for all drug offenses? (Y/N)**

YES.

- b. **Raising the age of criminal majority from 18 to 21, in line with research that shows that young offenders served by a juvenile system are much less likely to reoffend and more likely to successfully transition to adulthood? (Y/N)**

YES.

c. **Decriminalizing consensual sexual activity between adolescents, by creating an exception to the statutory rape law for youth close in age?** (Y/N)

[Candidate left answer blank]

d. **Eliminating the sentence of life without parole, which is costly and has been shown to be racist in its application?** (Y/N)

[Candidate left answer blank]

8. **Civil Asset Forfeiture**. Do you agree that Massachusetts civil forfeiture laws do not provide appropriate due process? (Y/N). If so, what reforms do you propose?

YES.

9. **Solitary Confinement**. In Massachusetts, prisoners can be sentenced to 10 years of solitary confinement—per infraction. The UN defines holding someone in solitary confinement for more than 15 days as torture. Do you support banning the use of long-term solitary confinement? (Y/N)

YES.

10. **Prison Visitation**. Maintaining connections with friends and family outside prisons is one of the most important factors in ensuring successful reentry. In March 2018, the DOC severely limited the ability of prisoners to receive visits and the rights of family and friends to visit their loved ones in prison. ([Read more on this here.](#)) Would you advocate for the ending of these restrictions? (Y/N)

YES.

11. **Prison Profiteering—Part I**. While Massachusetts does not have private prisons, the DOC invites private companies to profit off of the families of prisoners by price gouging inmates who have no alternatives but to buy from the sole providers of goods in prisons. Would you support legislation to prevent the price gouging of inmates by the DOC for necessary items and to require the DOC to adequately supply inmates with the basic requirements necessary for life and maintain good health and hygiene? (Y/N)

YES.

12. **Prison Profiteering—Part II**. The cost of phone calls can be as high as \$4-\$5 (or more) for 15 minutes of phone time for incarcerated individuals in some parts of Massachusetts. Would you support legislation making phone calls free for incarcerated individuals? (Y/N)

YES.

13. **Prison Moratorium**. Would you support a moratorium on the construction of new prisons and jails in the Commonwealth? (Y/N)

YES.

14. **DOC Reform**. Numerous reports (such as the recent *Falcon* and DOJ reports) have highlighted a culture of unchecked institutional violence in the Massachusetts Department of Corrections. What is the role of the AG in protecting the rights of those incarcerated and in changing the culture of the DOC?

The AG's office can play a significant role here, and this is personal to me as my twin brother Andre died ten years ago as a pretrial detainee while in the custody of the DOC.

15. **Clemency**. Would you support pardoning all individuals convicted of non-violent cannabis offenses, whether formerly or currently incarcerated, as Senators Warren and Markey have called on President Biden to do? (Y/N)

YES.

16. **Safe Communities Act**. Do you support the Safe Communities Act, which limits local and state police collaboration with federal immigration agents, bars law enforcement and court personnel from inquiring about immigration status, and ensures due process protections? (Y/N)

YES.

17. **Work and Family Mobility Act**. Do you support removing immigration status as a barrier to applying for a license or learner's permit? (Y/N)

YES.

18. **Data Equity**. Do you support allowing state agencies to collect, organize, and assemble public data on major ethnic subgroups for all racial groups to create more visibility for the diverse experiences within communities and enable policymakers and community organizations to be more responsive to community needs? (Y/N)

YES.

19. **Combating Gun Violence**. As Attorney General, what would you do to improve our state's efforts in preventing gun violence?

In Massachusetts, we have some of the most restrictive gun laws in the country and as AG, I would ensure those are enforced while also joining national conversations around passing common sense gun control legislation. In addition, I would invest in

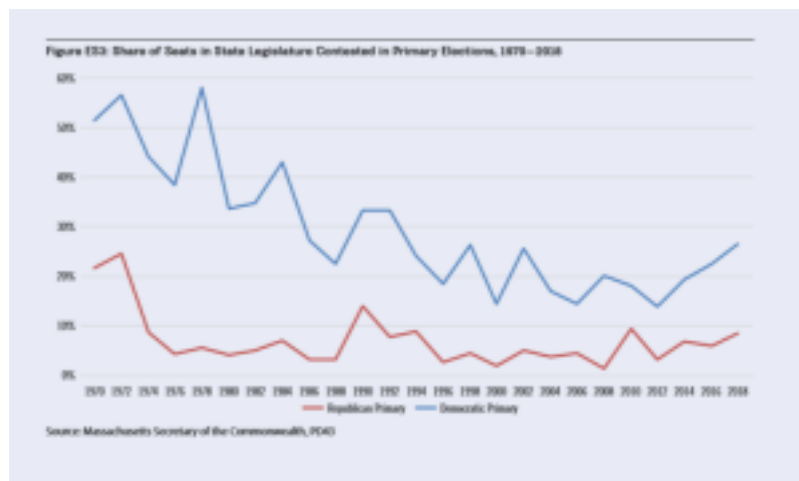
community based organizations, some of which are run by women, that are removing guns from our streets.

## F. Good Government and Strong Democracy

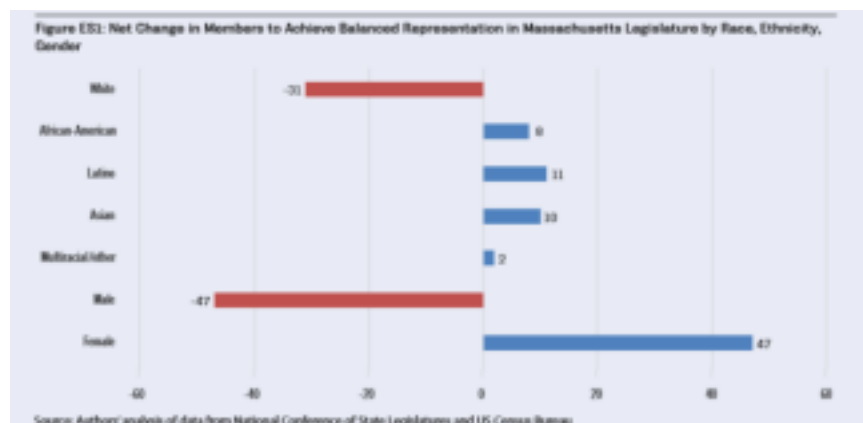
A strong democracy depends on a transparent and representative government and an engaged public. Too often, however, we see centralized, unaccountable power and barriers to participation. An undemocratic, centralized power structure on Beacon Hill makes it easier for lobbyists to target the top and undermine the system. Despite recent reforms, a weak public records system stymies government accountability: MA is one of only two states where all three branches of state government claim to be exempt. A strong democracy requires an engaged electorate, but voter turnout in midterm elections, and especially local elections, remains low. Although election modernization legislation in 2014 and 2018 helped bring much-needed reforms, we still lag behind states in New England and around the country in making voting accessible (Maine, for instance, has allowed for Election Day Registration since the 1970s).

A centralized power system, a skewed campaign finance system, and restrictive voting laws together help create a situation in which our elections are the [least competitive in the country](#).

**Our elections have grown less competitive over the past four decades.**



**Our legislature is not reflective of the population as a whole.**



1. **Please explain your principles and proposals relative to this issue, and what work you personally have done to advance them (legislation, community work, published writings, etc.).**

As a City Councilor, I authored legislation to establish an Inspector General for the City of Boston to promote good governance and transparency in our city government. As Attorney General, I would build on that leadership by continuing to push for transparency and accountability within our state agencies and by protecting our most vulnerable, especially our seniors, from predatory practices and scams. Additionally, I'll work to root out corruption in all its forms and hold bad actors accountable so that residents do not have to worry about those that seek to profit from our pain.

2. **Anti-Corruption. What would your office's priorities be in investigating and prosecuting public corruption?**

As AG, I will ensure that all state agencies and employees are held to the highest ethical standards, and would use all tools in the office including the criminal bureau in going after corruption.

3. **Campaign Finance. What would your office's priorities be in enforcing campaign finance laws?**

As AG, I will ensure campaign finance laws are enforced to the fullest extent.

4. **Public Records Law -- I. Massachusetts is the only state where the Governor's Office, the Legislature, and the Judiciary claim full exemptions from the public records laws. Would you support eliminating these exemptions? (Y/N)**

YES.

5. **Public Records Law -- II. How would your office strengthen enforcement of the state's public records law?**

In addition to looking at the expansion of public records law, I would ensure that they were complied with just as I did as an attorney for Governor Patrick.

6. **Voting Access. Massachusetts lags behind other states in making voting accessible for all. Do you support eliminating Massachusetts's arbitrary and exclusionary 20-day voter registration cutoff and allowing voters to register or update their registration at the polls on Election Day and during the early voting period? (Y/N)**

PAGE 39

YES.

7. **Jail-Based Voting. Individuals incarcerated with non-felony convictions maintain the right to vote, but that right often does not exist in practice. What would your office do to protect the voting rights of incarcerated individuals?**

[Candidate left answer blank]

**8. Voting Rights Restoration. Would you support restoring the franchise to incarcerated individuals serving time for felony convictions (Their right to vote was taken away by ballot twenty years ago)? (Y/N)**

YES.

**9. Reining in Big Tech. Tech companies have outsized power, threatening both individual rights and our democratic process. What would you do to rein in the power of big tech and to empower ordinary users of modern technologies to assert control over their privacy and personal information?**

I would continue to expand on the efforts of the Data Privacy and Security Division started under our current AG to address issues of privacy and disinformation.



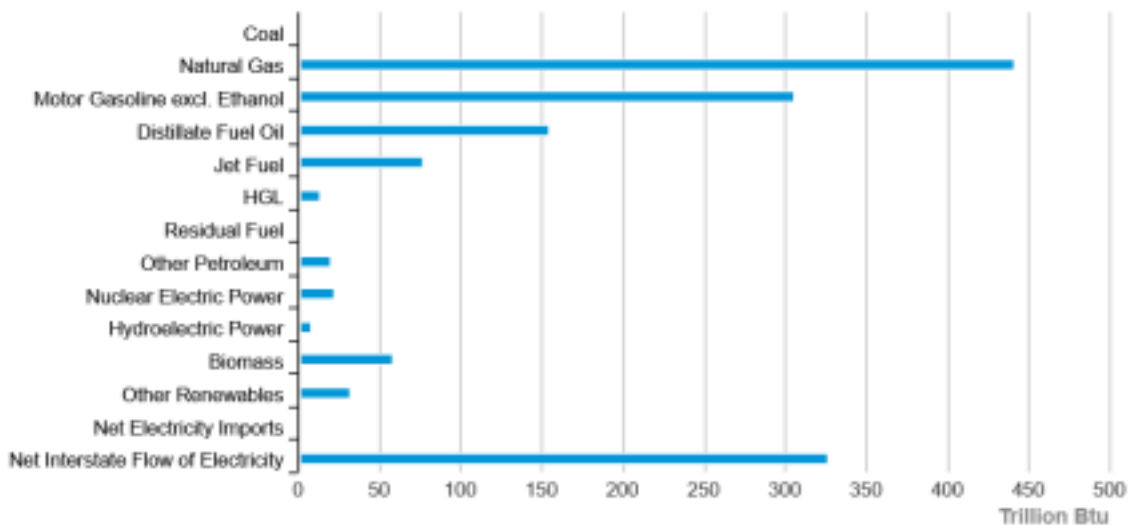
## G. Sustainable Infrastructure and Environmental Protection

As a coastal state, Massachusetts will be hit particularly hard by climate change, but we are not responding with the necessary urgency. In order to avoid catastrophic climate change, global carbon emissions need to be [halved by 2030](#) and brought to net zero by 2050, and affluent countries and states must go further. 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.

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 billion](#), and it would need [more than \\$10 billion](#) to bring infrastructure and equipment up to a state of good repair. Regional Transit Authorities that serve communities, including Gateway Cities across the state, face enormous capital needs as well.

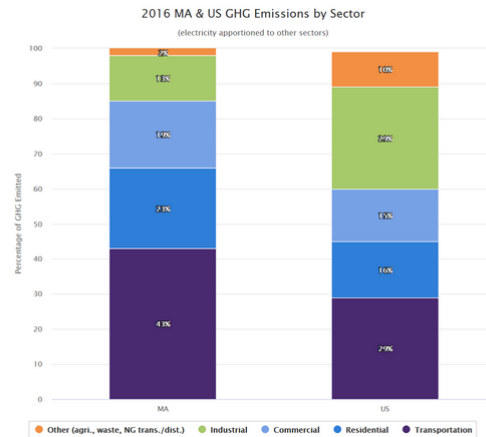
**Despite recent progress, Massachusetts is still overwhelmingly dependent on fossil fuels.**

**Massachusetts Energy Consumption Estimates, 2019**



Source: Energy Information Administration, State Energy Data System

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



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

1. **Please explain your principles and proposals relative to this issue, and what work you personally have done to advance them (legislation, community work, published writings, etc.).**

As a resident of Mattapan, I have seen first-hand the disproportionate impact of fossil fuel pollution and the effects the toxic agents released in our communities have on the health of children and families and communities of color, especially in the midst of the COVID-19 crisis. My leadership has always centered that experience. From the flooding to higher pollution rates that have contributed to higher risks of COVID-19 and higher rates of asthma in children of color to disparities in tree canopy cover and access to greenspaces and parks, it is clear that we need a response to the climate crisis that is both urgent and equitable. I know that pollution and the climate crisis is a public health crisis and that the investments we need to make in resiliency and sustainability are opportunities to improve the health and economic well-being of our residents.

2. **Next Generation Roadmap. At the start of this legislative session, the Legislature passed a bill that requires gross emissions reductions of 50% from 1990 levels by 2030, 75% by 2040, and at least 85% by 2050, as well as net zero by 2050. What do you view as the role of the AG in enforcing this law?**

As AG, I will prioritize implementing and enforcing all our laws, including this one, given the urgency of our climate crisis. ht against Exxon and other fossil fuel companies for their deceptive practices.

3. **Just Transition. Do you support the creation of a Just Transition Office to assist workers that are displaced in the transition from fossil fuels to clean energy?**  
(Y/N)

YES.

4. **Office of Ratepayer Advocacy. The Office of the Attorney General has a**

**dedicated unit, called the Office of Ratepayer Advocacy, that participates in dockets at the Department of Public Utilities, particularly on behalf of residential utility ratepayers. How do you envision using this office to protect customers while reducing greenhouse gas emissions and modernizing our energy systems?**

This is a significant statutory responsibility of the AG's office, and I would work to ensure that rates remain reasonable which affect not only environmental policy, but the economic stability of our residents.

5. **Transitioning Away from Fossil Gas. How will your office ensure that utility companies stop investing in gas pipes to the tune of 20 billion and instead focus on repairing leaks and equitably transitioning to non-emitting renewable thermal and efficient electric technologies?**

As a City Councilor representing a district that had significant gas leaks, I supported local legislation to address the issue and would continue that leadership as Attorney General.

6. **Gas Leaks. A Harvard study showed that there is 6 times more atmospheric methane than what is calculated by gas utilities and the DEP because they use outdated leak factors and national leak ratios. What would you do to ensure that our emissions accounting is accurate given our leaky gas system?**

As a City Councilor representing a district that had significant gas leaks, I supported local legislation to address the issue and would continue that leadership as Attorney General.

7. **Fossil Fuel Infrastructure. Do you oppose the expansion of fossil fuel infrastructure in the state? (Y/N) If so, what steps would you take to do so?**

YES.

8. **Utility Influence. Throughout the country, scandal after scandal has revealed how investor-owned utilities shape our energy and environmental laws to their private advantage, instead of the public interest. In Massachusetts, studies have shown how our utilities [spend](#) major money on political influence, through lobbying, donations, and [revolving door hiring practices](#) between state government and the utilities. How would you work to level the playing field and stop the utilities' shady tactics?**

As a former elected official, I know I am accountable to the people and will work as an AG on their behalf and this would not change as Attorney General.

9. **Environmental Justice. What would your office do to ensure compliance with environmental justice protections by both state agencies and private companies?**

As a resident of Mattapan, I know very well the effects of environmental injustices. As AG, I will prioritize implementing and enforcing environmental injustice protections.

10. **Free Public Transit. Do you support making public transit in the**

**Commonwealth fare-free?** (Y/N)

[Neither Yes nor NO] I support making buses fare-free.

### 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.

I'm proud to have built a strong, statewide coalition of support for our campaign, including the endorsement of more than 90 elected officials from every county in Massachusetts, progressive leaders such as Senator Ed Markey, labor, and community activists.