



PROGRESSIVE MASSACHUSETTS

statewide, grassroots organizing for progressive change in Massachusetts

2014 STATE RACES ENDORSEMENT QUESTIONNAIRE

Date: February 3, 2014
Candidate: Mike Lake
Office Sought: Lt. Governor
Party: Democrat
Web Site: ElectMikeLake.com

CANDIDATE CONTACT INFO

Email:
Mobile Phone:
Home Phone:

CAMPAIGN CONTACT INFO

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**RETURN COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRES BY MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 5:00PM, BY EMAIL ONLY
RETURN QUESTIONNAIRE AS (1) WORD FILE AND (2) PDF.**

E-mail completed questionnaire to deborah@progressivemass.com.

Please be in touch with Executive Director Deborah Shah with questions, at 917-922-7947 or by email.

***Please compose your answers directly in the document, underneath the question.
Limit answers to 250 words or fewer. No attachments.***

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I. About You

1. Why are you running for office?

I am running for office because my passion is public service. I do not seek a specific office, a particular title or a defined career path-- I run because I can make a difference and in 2014 the greatest opportunity to leverage my own skills and passions for the betterment of Massachusetts is the Lt. Governor's office. I am running for office because I define a public servant as a person in the community that anybody, regardless of age, gender, sexual orientation, race, religion, etc, can go to for help and if that public servant can help they will do so. There are countless families in Massachusetts who share the struggles my family faced and worse. I am running for office to fight for them, for their future and the opportunities they deserve. I am running for office because simple math and our morals tell us that families cannot sustain themselves on minimum wage, that young people cannot afford higher education, that homelessness should, at worst, be a temporary challenge and not an industry, that corporations should not be abusing the public welfare system to increase their profits and I am running for office because I believe healthcare is a universal human right that should not be held hostage in order to preserve an inefficient industry.

2. What prepares you to serve in this capacity?

I am running for Lt. Governor because I am uniquely qualified to realize a 21st century purpose for this office as well as to serve in more traditional roles. My vision for this office in a single word is to be a liaison. I will be a liaison to the 351 cities and towns in the Commonwealth, leveraging my experience as the President and CEO of Leading Cities-- partnering with municipal governments around the world to exchange solutions, foster economic development opportunities and facilitate government-to-government cooperation. I will be a liaison to our state and national legislators, utilizing my experiences in Washington and my relationships locally to advance progressive programs and policies, secure more federal funding and to keep a pulse on the needs, concerns and thoughts of the Commonwealth's citizens. Finally, I will be a liaison to the world outside of Massachusetts' borders, the "Chief Marketing Officer" of the Commonwealth, building the bridges, maintaining the relationships and creating the opportunities associated with competing in the global arena to bring investment, jobs that pay livable wages and economic empowerment to Massachusetts. On behalf of the Governor and the people of Massachusetts, I have initiated and facilitated cooperation agreements that open the door for economic development and increased opportunity for Massachusetts. I have introduced best practices in public policy and programs to local government in Massachusetts based on the research and discoveries of Leading Cities.

3. What do you think is the proper role of government in Massachusetts residents' daily lives?

Government is the system by which individuals find value in being part of the whole rather

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than the sum of its parts. As such, government is entrusted to deliver that value starting at the most basic level-- that every resident deserves fundamental protection from homelessness and starvation to unemployment and criminal activity. Government's role is to build, maintain, protect, secure and strengthen the ecosystem of our society so that individuals and families can grow and thrive. Government has a responsibility to create equity, opportunity, structure and certainty for the greater good of our community. All this demonstrates that Massachusetts' government must have a presence in our daily lives to provide everything from public education and infrastructure to protecting our civil liberties and to manage the balance of our environmental and economic ecosystem so that every individual has access to opportunity and the hope of reaching their own potential.

4. If elected, what would be your top three priorities?

1. If it is not already accomplished, I will work to increase our minimum wage, indexed to inflation and provide economic empowerment through creating new jobs that pay livable wages.
2. Aligning our education system, from early childhood to vocational retraining, with the needs and opportunities of the 21st century.
3. Securing the safety and well-being of families by increasing efforts to provide affordable housing and move the 4,100 homeless families into sustainable housing.

II. The Issues

Please compose your answers directly in the document, underneath the question. Limit answers to 250 words or fewer. No attachments.

Our questionnaire is focused on economic justice and inequality, as outlined in our Shared Prosperity Agenda (forthcoming). We are interested in your overall philosophy and approach to the components of the Shared Prosperity Agenda, as well as your views on specific policy and legislation.

In each section, **Question 1** seeks your overall view, values, principles and priorities. You do not need to address each item embedded in these first questions; they are suggestions.

In each section, **Question 2** asks about your advocacy experience; you may leave it blank if appropriate—we do not expect candidates to have a record on every issue. Current or former elected officials: please outline your leadership roles, as opposed to simply your voting record.

Additional questions seek your position on specific policies and legislation. At a minimum, please answer "yes" or "no"; you may also provide an explanation of your positions, as appropriate.

A. 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. Poverty levels continue to increase, while the minimum wage loses value every year. Massachusetts now ranks 8th in the nation for income inequality.

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

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of good paying jobs in the Commonwealth? How do you view wealth and income inequality, and what would you do about it, if anything?

Addressing shared prosperity is one of the most urgent issues of the current moment. The past thirty years have seen a widening divide between the rich and the poor. The system is quite simply rigged to consolidate wealth at the top. Government intervention isn't just desirable it is urgent.

The most important thing we can do at the state level is reform the state tax system, so that it asks the best off to pay the highest percentage of their income in state and local taxes, not the least. In addition to being backward, our current system doesn't provide enough for us to invest in the systems that low income families need to have a fair shot. We should raise taxes on the wealthy, not just for its own sake, but to invest in local public schools, public transportation, public higher education, human services, and health care.

In addition to reforming the tax structure we need to ensure that all workers earn a good wage. We should start by raising the minimum wage, but we should also use the power of state government to push wages up. We can do this by requiring any company getting economic development funding (or tax breaks) to provide living wage jobs and good benefits.

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).

Advocating for overworked and underpaid workers has been a central part of my campaign. I have used this campaign to build awareness of this issue and the inequality it has created in Massachusetts. I tell citizens everywhere I go that a family earning minimum wage must work 159 hours per week (the equivalent of 4 full-time jobs) to afford living in Massachusetts. I remind them that each year the income gap grows larger because inflation leaves people working for minimum wage behind. And I put it into perspective by explaining that had minimum wage been indexed to inflation, it would now be more than \$16 an hour. If we indexed minimum wage to worker productivity, we would be paying \$22 an hour. And I always demonstrate the inequity in our country by explaining that had we indexed minimum wage to executive compensation, we would be paying \$66 an hour. I support current legislation on raising the minimum wage (without taking away unemployment or other benefits from workers) and assert that our work is not done until we finally achieve a livable wage for all Massachusetts workers.

3. **Minimum Wage.** Do you support:

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Raising the wage to at least \$10.50/hour: Yes No
 Indexing automatic yearly increases to inflation: Yes No
 Increasing tipped wages to 60% of the minimum wage: Yes No

4. **Unemployment Insurance and Minimum Wage.** As of January 2014, the legislature is negotiating a bill that would pair an increase in the minimum wage with cuts to unemployment insurance. Do you oppose this effort?
Yes No

As I believe this is the most important issue in Massachusetts today, I would like to see a straight up or down vote void of amendments-- particularly any that would threaten workers' rights or benefits.

5. **Earned Sick Time.** Do you support requiring businesses with more than 11 employees to provide earned, paid sick time to their employees?
Yes No

Though I would ultimately like to see the 11 person floor removed so it is an automatic cost of doing business and does not prohibit growth above 11 employees.

6. **Job Creation and Standards.** A "Job Creation and Quality Standards Act" would require corporations that receive any kind of public benefits (grants, tax expenditures procurement contracts) to, in turn, pay a living wage (\$15 per hour plus benefits) to full-time employees. Do you support such legislation?
Yes No

7. **Employee-Owned Businesses.** Do you support legislation to foster and develop employee ownership of businesses in Massachusetts?
Yes No

8. **Co-ops, Benefit Corporations, Community Banks.** Do you support legislation that would encourage the formation of cooperatives and/or benefit corporations and the development of community banks?
Yes No

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B. Education and Workforce Development

Public education has always been a gateway to opportunity and mobility for all, regardless of economic circumstances, a cornerstone of the American dream for all residents. However, 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. Meanwhile, powerful corporate interests have been steadily undermining public school teachers and unions and siphoning money from our public K-12 system.

1. Please share your personal values and principles regarding public education and workforce training. *What value does public education and workforce development have in improving our economy as well as in addressing matters of economic justice? What measures should the Commonwealth take on these issues? You might address, for example, charter schools, school vouchers, standardized testing and federal programs like No Child Left Behind and Race to the Top.*

Massachusetts has the best schools in the nation, but our successes aren’t reaching all of our young people; parts of our state have dropout rates that extend into double digits, and we face serious challenges in serving students in urban schools with high concentrations of English language learners.

Our commitment should be to ensure that every child from every neighborhood gets a first class education. We need to invest much more in small class size; a diverse and full curriculum including science, technology, engineering, math, foreign languages, art, music and sports; social and emotional supports for students with tough home lives; holistic assessment of students, teachers, and schools; mentoring and training of teachers; and longer school days with properly compensated teachers.

I see the value of charter schools as that of a laboratory to support public education, not compete with it. As such, funding for charter schools should be allocated in a separate line item dedicated to research and development investment in education and not tied to funds supporting our public schools. Although in some cases charter schools provide better educations for a few, they drain money from district schools further undermining our commitment to all kids. We should be focused on the public schools most of our kids will attend.

We have also dramatically under invested in public higher education over the past decade. The result is college is out of reach for low income kids and a huge and long-lasting financial burden for middle income kids and families. Our public colleges and universities, including workforce training programs, should be much more affordable. Unless we fix this problem we will increase, rather than decrease, the income divide in Massachusetts.

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

Again, I have made this issue a central tenet of my campaign. Over a decade ago, I advocated for the White House to consider college tuition increases be limited to the rate of inflation in order to qualify for tax exempt status. Recently, I have proposed to Senator Warren that we restructure our tax exempt system for higher education institutions (currently designed as an unfunded mandate) to provide tax credits instead. This proposal would align the interests of universities and colleges with community interests at the local, state and federal levels. It would incentivize colleges and universities to support graduates in their efforts to find employment and encourage them to remain as productive members of our local economy, rather than leaving the Commonwealth to compete with us later. Tax payers in Massachusetts invest in these institutions and therefore deserve to share the benefits of an educated workforce.

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

A child’s education begins long before he or she sets foot inside an elementary school classroom. One of the most critical steps we can take to ensure overall education equity is to make a commitment to universal early education so that all children start school on equal footing and ready to learn. Twenty five thousand children are currently on the early education waitlist, putting them behind children with access to such programs, and making it hard to catch up. I support increased funding for early education and early intervention programs.

We also need to find solutions to support English language learners and other students of color, who make up a disproportionate share of our dropout population. I support Senator DiDomenico’s ELL bill. I also support Senator Chang-Diaz’s dropout prevention bill, which provides early identification of and individualized support for students at risk of leaving school. For girls, teen pregnancy is the strongest predictor of dropping out or falling behind, and I support increased funding for teen pregnancy prevention and support programs. I will also be a champion for the METCO program, which continues to exhibit very strong results.

4. **Universal Pre-K.** Do you support creating universal, free Pre-K, accessible to any resident of Massachusetts, integrated into the public school system?
Yes No

As important as funding our public schools and higher education is, funding universal pre-school programs is an equal necessity. The relevant research demonstrates that children’s neural development is at a peak between age 0 and age 3. The more kids are intellectually

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stimulated during this crucial time, the faster they develop mentally, thereby making it possible for them to excel in school later and be better prepared to become a productive member of our economy—this is a long-term investment with unparalleled rates of return.

5. **Universal higher education.** Do you support a program that provides free, publicly funded higher education for every student who wants it?

Yes No

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

Yes No

C. Health Care

Massachusetts has led the way in providing near universal health care insurance coverage. However, we still spend an oversized portion of public and private money on health care, without necessarily achieving better health outcomes.

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

This issue is straightforward in terms of principles-- health care is a right, not a privilege, and we need to approach all of our decisions on health care with that value in mind. I support efforts to move Massachusetts towards a single payer system, including Senator Eldridge’s proposal to commence a comparison study of our current cost containment efforts against a single payer system.

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

3. **Single Payer and Public Option.** Do you support moving Massachusetts to Single Payer insurance?

Yes No

What role might a Public Option play, in your view?

My fear of the Public Option scenario is that, despite what opponents say, private industry could undermine the Public Option. I see the threat as being similar to what UPS and FedEx have done to the US Postal Service—providing service where it is most economical and leaving the rest to the public sector.

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4. **Costs and Quality.** What steps would you take to lower health care costs while maintaining or improving health outcomes?

Improving care while decreasing costs can occur when health care is integrated and properly managed to maximize benefits and eliminate redundancies and overtreatment. In addition, implementing measures to prevent fraud in the payment system (something I advocated for during the 2010 Auditor’s race).

5. **Mental Health.** What steps would you take to address the gap in affordable mental health services?

Mental health services are as fundamental to Massachusetts residents’ well-being as physical care. I support increased funding for mental health and substance abuse services in the state budget. Mental health is the root cause of many issues I care deeply about, from suicide prevention to homelessness. We need to make it clear that investing in the wellbeing of our fellow citizens is both a short and long-term value for us all. For example with numbers of self-medicated illegal drug users increasing, we are looking at a \$2 billion investment in prisons. Prisons are not the answer—properly medicated individuals with jobs will reduce the need for additional prison space. We need to make our investments wisely—focusing on root causes and not symptoms.

6. **Health disparities.** What steps would you take to reduce racial and income disparities in health outcomes?

It is tragic that communities of color and low-income communities have worse health outcomes than other communities, including higher rates of diabetes, heart disease, and prostate cancer, to name a few, and even increased rates of asthma in young children.

I support increased state funding to community health centers and disproportionate share hospitals, both of which serve vulnerable populations. I also continue to be interested in the work of the Health Disparities Council, created as part of the 2006 health care reform law, which provides data-driven methods to solving these issues. Access to quality care as well as access to healthy foods is essential to balancing these disparities. I would also support efforts for increased urban agriculture opportunities.

7. **Standards of care and cost.** Do you support establishing a state panel of experts (such as the Affordable Care Act’s IPAB/“Independent Payment Advisory Board”) to recommend high-value and cost-effective services?

Yes No

8. **Pharmaceutical companies.** Do you support prohibiting pharmaceutical companies from including

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direct-to-consumer drug advertising as tax-deductible expense?

Yes No

9. **Bulk prescription programs.** Do you support establishing a bulk prescription drug program that would provide lower cost prescription drugs for public employees?

Yes No

Do you support establishing this same program for *all* Massachusetts residents?

Yes No

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D. Housing

In the last ten years, the need for affordable housing has increased, while funds for affordable housing have decreased, federal and state. Currently there is a 10-year waiting list for a rental voucher, and the average rent for a two bedroom apartment requires a wage 50% higher than the median Massachusetts wage. Half of families in Greater Boston alone pay over 30% of their income in housing and utilities costs—and 25% of households pay *more than half* their income to housing. This is unsustainable. It has led to expanding economic inequality, increased homelessness, and damage to our economy, as talented workers often leave the state for less expensive regions.

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?

The combination of stagnant family incomes and rising home prices and rents in many parts of the state is having a devastating impact on working family living standards. We have both a moral obligation and the economic necessity to increase housing options at affordable prices. To do this we need to increase housing production dramatically.

In developing the housing we will need in the Commonwealth, we need to be keenly aware of the changing demographics in the state. Over the next decade, we will have to build housing for hundreds of thousands of aging baby boomer households who will want to move from their current housing to smaller units with appropriate amenities. We will also need smaller housing units in order to retain and attract young millennials. As such, I fully endorse Governor Patrick’s call for 10,000 units of transit-oriented, smart growth multiunit housing per year in the Commonwealth. We need to be sure that overly-restrictive local zoning does not make such housing impossible to produce. We should encourage cities and towns to adopt Chapter 40R and 40S to help them rezone appropriate parts of their municipalities for smart growth of this type.

In addition, we need to encourage universities and teaching hospitals to work with developers to produce 8,000 – 10,000 units of smaller housing units for graduate students, medical interns and residents, and young workers in order to not only provide housing for them, but to free up older larger housing stock like that found in Greater Boston’s triple-deckers and duplexes – housing originally built for working families but now being taken over by young people who, with roommates, outbid working families for this housing.

In older communities where there has been a disproportionate number of foreclosures, we need to continue state and federal efforts to help families stay in their homes.

We also need to increase access to areas of the Commonwealth that currently have affordable housing by investing in our regional transportation authorities, our commuter rail system (including more frequent service as well as advancing South Coast Rail). Furthermore, I believe we need to continue efforts for a long-term project of high-speed rail service in the Northeast Corridor (using the inner route) to bring jobs and economic development to places like Worcester and Springfield, while reducing carbon emission and increasing mobility and connectivity to jobs and housing.

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

During my tenure at Northeastern University we produced the annual Housing Report Card, which showed a trend of diminishing affordable housing. As a board member for Neighborhood of Affordable Housing, we have worked to develop affordable housing that moves us closer to our supply goals.

This issue brings us back to raising the minimum wage. Research shows that 29% of homeless families in Massachusetts have a working adult. Basic math and moral conscience tell us that a person who works 40 hours per week should be able to put food on the table and keep a roof over his or her head. Ending family homelessness was the single cause I rallied the Real Estate industry around during my tenure at United Way. We have 4,100 families living in government subsidized motel and more than 20,000 homeless children, the average age of which is just 8 years old. We are one of the wealthiest states in the wealthiest nation on Earth. This is a moral crisis and will be an issue I will continue to champion as the next Lt. Governor.

3. **Housing Authorities.** Governor Patrick has proposed consolidating the Housing Authorities to six regional authorities, from the current 242 authorities. The legislature appears reluctant to agree to this reform, in part because it would reduce local control. What is your position?

I support the consolidation of local housing authorities. Through such consolidation, we can increase the efficiency and effectiveness of delivering public housing services to those families who need such housing. This will not only save tax dollars by reducing the administrative cost of running these authorities, but create better living situations for those who rely on public housing.

4. **Affordable Housing.** What would you do to increase the number of affordable housing units in the State? What would you do to ensure that no low-income family has to spend more than 50% of their income on housing and related expenses; and that fewer than a quarter of families spending more than 33% of income on shelter?

The key is creating enough new supply to meet demand. Because of the increased demand of young residents for housing and the explosion in rents, the median price of a single unit in a Greater Boston triple decker has soared by 46% since 2009. The vacancy rate for such housing has shrunk to less than 4 percent, well below the level needed to stabilize rents. We have tried to keep housing affordable for low and moderate income households through rent subsidies and we need to continue to offer these. But these rent subsidies do practically nothing to increase supply and therefore the need for larger and larger subsidies for more and more families continues to grow. As I note in my answer to a

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previous question, we need zoning reform for expanding housing supply especially for young people and aging baby boomers. This will help keep rents affordable and ultimately reduce the need for tax-payer supplied rent subsidies.

5. **Temporary Housing Transitions.** What would you do to move homeless families and individuals out of motels and shelters and into permanent housing?

Living in shelters and motels for extended periods of time is hard on families and extremely disruptive to children. We need to work together to make a strong commitment to helping families achieve permanent, stable housing.

The solution starts with preventing more families from losing their housing in the first place. We need to commit stronger funding for rent stabilization and anti-foreclosure programs to provide families a helping hand when they are at-risk of losing their housing.

Current waitlists for public housing subsidies are 10 years long. This makes applying for housing seem like a quixotic effort for families who need housing immediately. Federal cuts to housing programs have made the problem worse, but the state nonetheless needs to pick up the ball. I support strong investments in programs such as MRVP, RAFT, and Home and Healthy for Good.

We also need to increase the amount of available public housing and at the same time limit rent increases in our older housing stock by increasing multiunit housing construction in order to make it possible to house homeless families and individuals in decent permanent housing at reasonable rents.

6. **Regulation Reform, Development and Preservation.** Would you support reforms to update our outmoded zoning, subdivision, and planning laws, in such a way as to encourage balanced development and land preservation?

Yes No

Currently, there are 31 communities in Massachusetts that have taken advantage of Chapter 40R, the Smart Growth Overlay Zoning Law passed in 2004. Nearly 2,000 units of housing have been built in 40R communities or are scheduled to be built. We need to encourage more communities to adopt 40R, which not only provides for more housing that is transit-oriented, but provides those communities with additional local aid to help them pay for public services. I will be a strong advocate for 40R development when I am elected and will encourage communities all through the Commonwealth to take advantage of this “smart” way to develop the housing we need so desperately in many parts of the state.

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E. Revenue and Taxation

Because of income tax cuts and the effects of the recession, Massachusetts has lost nearly \$3 billion in revenue over the last 12 years. We now collect less revenue than 21 other states, and our tax revenue is below the national average. Since 1982, local aid has dropped 58%. Cuts to the moderately progressive state income tax has meant increasing reliance on fees, sales, gas and property taxes, exacerbating the overall regressiveness of our revenue. Regressive taxation strains low- and middle-income families, and reduced revenue collection curtails our ability to invest in vital infrastructure.

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?*

Massachusetts is a great place to live, work, and raise a family because of our commitment to investing in the programs and services we need to build strong and vibrant communities. Federal cuts as a result of the recession and sequester have led to a scaling back of these critical programs and services. Cities and towns across the state have been hamstrung by dramatic cuts to local aid. Though our economy continues to recover, the symptoms of these cuts are everywhere: families living in motels, seniors skipping medical appointments because they can no longer afford the RIDE following dramatic fare increases, thousands of toddlers remaining on the waitlist for early education.

We simply can't maintain our position as a leader in education and innovation if we are unable or unwilling to invest in our greatest resource as a state: our people. To grow Massachusetts, we need to commit to a revenue structure that is both adequate and fair. This means collecting enough revenue to provide for the programs and services that our communities need, and collecting it in a way that those who have more, give more.

I look forward to learning of the deliberations of the state's Tax Fairness Commission. I hope the members of the commission will suggest a way to make our personal tax system more progressive either by suggesting that the state take on the task of passing a constitutional amendment to permit such a tax system that allow higher income tax rates on wealthier citizens or barring that creates a system with somewhat higher rates but with larger exemptions and deductions for lower income individuals/families that could have something of the same effect without the need for a constitutional amendment.

I favor a reduction in the corporation income tax offset by (1) higher personal income tax rates on wealthier households and (2) a sharp reduction in corporate tax loopholes, subsidies, and other regulations that have been created to lower the effective corporate tax rate. This would be revenue neutral (or raise additional revenue) and at the same time reduce the wastefulness of corporations spending their time and resources to find tax loopholes for which they can take advantage.

We can now build a tax system that is both fairer and raises the revenue we need to take

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care of our state and local public needs.

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).

3. **Tax Rates for Upper Incomes.** Do you support increasing income taxes on the wealthiest residents of Massachusetts?
 Yes No

4. **Automatic Tax Decrease Triggers.** Do you support halting the automatic decrease in state tax when Massachusetts state revenues grow four quarters in a row?
 Yes No

5. **Capital Gains.** Do you support increasing the capital gains tax (with safeguards to protect seniors)?
 Yes No

6. **Progressive Taxation.** "An Act to Invest in Our Communities" was designed to raise significant revenue while making our tax code more progressive, but it has not passed the legislature. Would you support a renewed effort to pass this or similar legislation?
 Yes No

7. **Corporate Tax Breaks.** Do you support eliminating or substantially reducing corporate tax breaks?
 Yes No

Do you support repealing or significantly reducing the Film Production Tax Credit?
 Yes No

8. **Clawbacks and Transparency in Corporate Tax Breaks.** Do you support increasing corporate tax break transparency and clawback provisions?
 Yes No

This has worked quite well in the biosciences based on the efforts of the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center. Those firms that took advantage of tax breaks, but then failed to meet employment goals, have returned their tax benefit revenues to the state.

9. **Graduated Income Tax.** Would you support a state constitutional amendment creating a Massachusetts progressive income tax?
 Yes No

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IV. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Please compose your answers directly in the document, underneath the question. Limit answers to 250 words or fewer. No attachments.

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.

Though much of this has been covered in the above, I think it is important to summarize my focus and passion as a public servant. I will not highlight the progressive leaders I have worked for or supported in the past or the work I did not do myself. Above, I share with you the work I have done and that still needs to be done. This is the work that fuels my commitment to public service—standing up for those who need a voice, a champion for causes like ending family homelessness and making livable wages a reality for all workers.

As has been said many times before, Massachusetts is a state of leadership—from providing healthcare as a right rather than a privilege to being the first state to allow gay marriage (a cause that I am most proud of having been a part of 10 years ago). I have made issues affecting some of the most vulnerable in our Commonwealth a personal and professional passion. Though many battles have been won, the war against inequality continues. Today we have an opportunity to address the income and education gaps that plague our families and Massachusetts as a whole. We will be judged by what we do or don't do for those who need support. I will dedicate my tenure as our next Lt. Governor to, above all else, ensure that we close these gaps and create a more perfect, more inclusive and more equitable Commonwealth for all our residents.

When this endorsement process for Progressive Massachusetts was being developed, I happily provided the input that was sought so that this organization would stand with candidates who were willing to give voice and action to issues that need to be addressed. I know being called the most progressive candidate in this race and my positions on the issues above lose votes and supporters, but these are the issues that need a leader most. These are the issues that matter the most. These are the issues that progressives must stand up, stand strong and stand together for if we are going to continue to lead our Commonwealth and our nation forward. I would be honored and grateful to stand with you and I sincerely hope you will stand with me.