2023-2024: Key Additional PM-Supported Legislation

Shared Prosperity

A Fair Tax Code

Ending Regressive Tax Giveaways
- S.1797 (Eldridge) / H.2744 (Connolly): An Act repealing chapter 62F
- Repeals a law that redirects public investment in essential infrastructure toward tax giveaways for the richest Bay Staters

PILOT Reform
- S.1836 (Gomez) / H.2963 (Uyterhoeven): An Act relative to payments in lieu of taxation by organizations exempt from the property tax
- Enables cities and towns with nonprofits owning total property valued at or above $15 million to require them to make payments in lieu of taxes (PILOT) equal to 25% what they would have owed without the exemption

Good Jobs & An Equitable Economy

Pay Equity
- S.1181 (Feeney/Miranda) / H.1940 (Rogers, D. /Barber): An Act relative to transparency in the workplace
- Requires employers to act on their commitment by publicly reporting their wage data, providing information essential to measuring our progress toward racial and gender wage equity in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Pay Range Disclosure
- S.1191 (Jehlen) / H.1849 (Cutler / Fluker Oakley): An Act relative to pay range disclosure
- Requires employers to give pay ranges for specific jobs to applicants and current workers

Combating Wage Theft
- S.1158 (DiDomenico) / H.1868 (Donahue): An Act to prevent wage theft, promote employer accountability, and enhance public enforcement
- Provides AG's office with additional mechanisms for enforcing the Commonwealth's wage and hour laws and subjects lead contractors to joint and several civil liability if their subcontractors commit wage theft

One Fair Wage
- S.1188 (Jehlen) / H.1872 (Farley-Bouvier / Montaño): An Act requiring one fair wage
- Phases out the discriminatory subminimum wage for tipped workers

State House Staff Collective Bargaining
- [S.2014](#) (Keenan) / [H.3069](#) (Kearney): An Act relative to collective bargaining rights for legislative employees
- Extends collecting bargaining rights to State House staff

Public Bank
- [S.632](#) (Eldridge) / [H.975](#) (Connolly): An Act to establish a Massachusetts public bank
- Creates a public bank that would be able to offer lower-interest loans to local governments financing infrastructure projects, small-and medium-sized businesses (especially those facing barriers to capital, MWBEs, those in rural communities, and coops), and farmers

Health Care for All

Medicare for All
- [S.744](#) (Eldridge) / [H.1239](#) (Sabadosa/Garlick): An Act establishing medicare for all in Massachusetts
- Establishes a single payer system, in which the state provides health care to all residents as a right

Full-Spectrum Pregnancy Care
- [S.646](#) (Friedman) / [H.1137](#) (Sabadosa / Balser): An Act Ensuring Access to Full Spectrum Pregnancy Care
- Requires health insurance plans to cover all pregnancy care—including abortion, prenatal care, childbirth, and postpartum care—without any kind of cost-sharing

Maternal Health
- [S.1415](#) (Miranda): An Act relative to birthing justice in the Commonwealth
- Introduces a framework to improve maternal health outcomes and advance recommendations from the Special Commission on Racial Inequities in Maternal Health

Cover All Kids
- [S.740](#) (DiDomenico) / [H.1237](#) (Rogers, D.): An Act to ensure equitable health coverage for children
- Expands comprehensive MassHealth coverage to children and young adults whose only eligibility barrier is immigration status

Community Immunity Act
- [S.1458](#) (Rausch) / [H.2151](#) (Donato): An Act promoting community immunity (Rausch / Donato)

- Creates statewide consistent immunization policy and provides residents throughout the Commonwealth the data necessary to prevent future outbreaks of vaccine-preventable infectious disease

Overdose Prevention Centers
- S.1242 (Cyr) / H.1981 (Fernandes / Decker): An Act relative to preventing overdose deaths and increasing access to treatment
- Creates a ten-year pilot programs for overdose prevention centers that use harm reduction strategies to address the opioid crisis

A High-Quality Public Education for All

Universal School Meals
- S.261 (DiDomenico) / H.603 (Vargas): An Act relative to universal school meals
- Ensures that there is no cost to families for any student to receive school lunch

Anti-Racist Education
- S.288 (Gomez) / H.542 (Nguyen / Ultrino): An Act to promote racially inclusive curriculum in schools
- Requires the teaching of an anti-racist curriculum that recognizes the contributions of historically underrepresented communities and creates a grant program for such curricular development

Educator Diversity
- S.311 (Lewis) / H.549 (Peisch): An Act relative to educator diversity
- Provides the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) and local districts the policy tools needed to achieve the stated goal of increasing the percentage of diverse educators from 8% to 25% by 2030 while addressing some of the most pertinent barriers for educators of color

Debt-Free Public Higher Ed
- S.823 (Eldridge) / H.1265 (Higgins / Gentile): An Act relative to debt-free public higher education
- Creates a higher education system where every Massachusetts resident has a right to attend any public college or university free of tuition and fees

Endowment Tax
- S.1834 (Gomez)/ H.2824 (Higgins / Barber): An Act to support educational opportunity for all
- Imposes an excise tax on university endowments greater than $1 billion to create a fund subsidizing the cost of higher education, early education and child care for lower-income and middle-class residents of the commonwealth

Tuition Equity
- S.836 (Miranda) / H.1281 (M. Moran / Madaro): An Act providing access to higher education for high school graduates in the Commonwealth
- Ensures that all MA high school graduates, regardless of immigration status, have access to in-state tuition rates

Housing for All

Tenant Opportunity to Purchase
- S.880 (Jehlen) / H.1350 (Livingstone/Consalvo): An Act to guarantee a tenant's first right of refusal
- Provides 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

Rent Stabilization
- S.1299 (Jehlen) / H.2103 (Rogers, D. / Montaño): An Act enabling cities and towns to stabilize rents and protect tenants & S.872 (Eldridge) / H.1304 (Connolly): An Act enabling local options for tenant protections
- Enable municipalities to pass rent stabilization ordinances to fight displacement

Access to Counsel
- S.864 (DiDomenico) / H.1731 (Rogers, D. / Day): An Act promoting access to counsel and housing stability in Massachusetts
- Provides legal representation for low-income tenants and owner-occupants in eviction proceedings

Housing for Returning Citizens
- S.878 (Gomez) / H.1362 (Montaño): An Act to secure housing for returning citizens
- Would allow the Department of Housing and Community Development to provide programs, policies, guidelines, priorities, and preferences for the housing of formerly incarcerated persons reentering communities

The Upstream RAFT Act
- S.856 (Crighton) / H.1312 (Decker): An Act providing upstream homelessness prevention assistance to families, youth, and adults
- Would protect all low-income state residents from eviction by codifying and streamlining access to DHCD's homelessness prevention program, Residential Assistance for Families in Transition (RAFT), and restoring critical COVID-era protections

Racial and Social Justice: Protecting the Civil Rights of All

Keeping Families Connected

Safe Communities Act
- S.1510 (Eldridge/Miranda) / H.2288 (Balser / Cruz): An Act to protect the civil rights and safety of all Massachusetts residents
- 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

Visitation Rights
- S.1541 (Miranda) / H.2314 (Decker): An Act to strengthen visitation rights of incarcerated people
- Strengthens and secures the rights of prisoners to receive visits and maintain relationships with their friends and loved ones without unnecessary interference from the state

Reforming Sentencing Laws for Equity, Justice, and Respect

Ending Life without Parole (LWOP)
- S.1045 (Miranda) / H.1821 (Worrell): An Act to reduce mass incarceration
- Repeals mandatory sentences of life without parole, which have strong racial biases and have been deemed human rights violations by international courts

Decriminalizing Consensual Sex
- S.1110 (Rausch) / H.1617 (Lewis / Fernandes / Higgins): An Act supporting consenting young adults
- Decriminalizes consensual activity between teenagers close in age

Judicial Diversion for Youth
- S.940 (Creem) / H.1495 (Fluker-Oakley): An Act promoting diversion of juveniles to community supervision and services
- Expands the list of offenses that are eligible for judicial consideration allowing an individualized hearing, while maintaining the discretion of a judge to allow or reject diversion for a youth

Access to Justice
- S.953 (DiDomenico / Miranda) / H.1677 (Meschino): An Act to create access to justice
- Increases access to legal remedies for communities disproportionately impacted by environmental burdens, e.g., by eliminating the legal burden of proving that programs or activities with a disparate impact are motivated by discriminatory intent

Police Accountability

Regulating Facial Surveillance
- S.927 (Creem) / H.1728 (Ramos): An Act to implement the recommendations of the special commission on facial recognition technology
- Implements the recommendations of the commission created by the 2020 police reform bill to create a tight regulatory framework for facial surveillance

Qualified Immunity Reform
- S.1004 (Gomez): An Act reforming the Massachusetts civil rights act
- Prevents qualified immunity from being used as a shield against lawsuits for violations of a person's civil rights.

Embracing the Diversity of Our Commonwealth

Massachusetts Parentage Act
- S.947 (Cyr) / H.1713 (Peake / Kane) An Act to ensure legal parentage equality
- Updates Massachusetts's outdated parentage law so that it is clear and equitable, and provides legal protection for all families, including LGBTQ+ families; provides clarity on how to establish parentage for children born through assisted reproduction, surrogacy, and to same-sex parents who aren't married, among other such updates

Data Equity
- H.3003 (Mom / Eldridge): An Act ensuring equitable representation in the Commonwealth
- Enables 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

Protecting Fundamental Civil Liberties

Strengthening Privacy Rights
- S.148 (Creem) / H.357 (Lipper-Garabedian): An Act protecting reproductive health access, LGBTQ lives, religious liberty, and freedom of movement by banning the sale of cell phone location information
- Bans the sale of cell phone location data

Indigenous Agenda

Indigenous Peoples Day
- S.1976 (Comerford) / H.2989 (Barber): An Act establishing an Indigenous Peoples Day
- Replaces Columbus Day with Indigenous Peoples Day in the Massachusetts General Laws

Teaching Native American History
- [S.344](#) (Rausch) / [H.529](#) (Lewis): An act relative to celebrating and teaching Native American cultures and history
- Addresses the lack of Indigenous curriculum in Massachusetts public schools

Banning Discriminatory Mascots
- [S.245](#) (Comerford) / [H.477](#) (Fluker Oakley): An Act prohibiting the use of Native American mascots by public schools in the Commonwealth
- Tasks the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education with establishing regulations to prohibit Native American mascots in MA public schools

Educating Native Youth
- [S.318](#) (Miranda / Comerford) / [H.536](#) (Montaño): An Act providing for the creation of a permanent commission relative to the education of American Indian and Alaska Native residents of the Commonwealth
- Requires the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to engage in timely and meaningful consultation with tribal stakeholders about improving educational outcomes and opportunities

Protecting Native Heritage
- [S.2186](#) (Rausch) / [H.3248](#) (Lewis): An act relative to celebrating and teaching Native American cultures and history
- Ensures that Native American funerary objects, sacred objects, and objects of cultural patrimony (those of cultural, traditional or historical importance to their heritage) held in governmental, municipal or non-profit collections are not sold for profit

Sustainable Infrastructure and Environmental Protection

Improving Indoor Air Quality
- [S.1382](#) (Jehlen) / [H.2131](#) (Barber / Connolly): An Act to improve outdoor and indoor air quality for communities burdened by pollution
- Improves indoor and outdoor air quality, especially for Environmental Justice populations and those communities burdened by air emissions from highways, ports, airports, and congested roadways by expanding outdoor air monitoring for key pollutants, setting ambitious targets for 2030 and 2035, requiring better ventilation systems in medium and large buildings, among other measures

Siting Reform
- [S.2113](#) (DiDomenico / Edwards) / [H.3187](#) (Madaro): An Act relative to energy facilities siting improvement to address environmental justice, climate, and public health
- Adds environmental justice, public health, and climate to the factors that the Energy Facilities Siting Board must consider in its deliberations; requires community

engagement prior to filing for environmental or Siting Board review of a petition to construct an oil, gas, or substation facility; among other steps

IPCC by 2030
- S.2121 (Eldridge) / H.3231 (Uyterhoeven): An Act investing in a prosperous, clean Commonwealth by 2030
- Commits MA to transitioning to 100% renewable electricity and net zero carbon emissions across all sectors by 2030

Fare-Free Bus Pilots
- S.2246 (Jehlen) / H.3266 (Barber / LeBoeuf): An Act relative to fare free buses
- Creates a one-year free bus pilot for the MBTA and all Regional Transit Authorities

Transit Electrification
- S.2217 (Crighton) / H.3392 (Owens / Armini): An Act Setting Deadlines to Electrify the Commuter Rail & S.2285 (Oliveira) / H.3366 (LeBoeuf): An Act electrifying regional transit authorities
- Requires full electrification of the commuter rail by the end of 2035 and increases train frequency; requires full electrification of RTAs by the end of 2035

Regional Transit Accessibility
- S.2277 (Moran) / H.3272 (Blais): An Act to increase regional transit accessibility in the Commonwealth
- Increases the funding floor for RTAs to support the move towards 7-day-a-week service during critical commute hours, create a dedicated fund for RTAs, uplift community needs through an annual RTA Council report, and eliminate profitability as a performance metric for transit agencies

Good Government and Strong Democracy

Same Day Registration
- S.410 (Creem) An Act making voting administrative changes to create equitable systemic solutions / H.688 (Gentile): An Act establishing same day registration of voters
- Enables eligible citizens to register to vote at the polls, eliminating the 10-day voter registration window

All Resident Voting
- S.415 (Eldridge) / H.706 (Montaño): An Act extending voting rights in municipal elections to noncitizen voters of the commonwealth
- Enables cities and towns in Massachusetts to allow legal non-citizens (e.g., Green Card holders, students with visas) to vote in local elections

Teen Voting
- S.438 (Rausch): An Act ensuring municipal participation of the widest eligible range & H.725 (Vargas / Fernandes): An Act ensuring municipal power over whether elections are reformed
- Enables cities and towns in Massachusetts to lower the voting age for municipal elections to 16 to encourage good voting habits early

Local Option RCV
- S.433 (Rausch) / H.711 (Pignatelli): An Act providing a local option for ranked choice voting in municipal elections
- Enables cities and towns in Massachusetts to adopt ranked choice voting for municipal elections

Public Records Law Expansion
- S.2064 (Rausch): An Act extending the public records law to the Governor and the Legislature
- Eliminates the Governor and Legislature blanket exemptions from the public records law

Empowering Parents to Run
- S.422 (Jehlen) / H.669 (Connolly / Meschino): An Act supporting parents running for office
- Allows parents running for elected office to expense child care to their campaign accounts