

Gubernatorial Candidates Survey Responses

Name	Do you support State Aid to Public Libraries	Do you support State Aid to Regional Public Libraries?	Do you support Library Technology & Resource Sharing?	Do you support Public Library Construction?	Do you support School Libraries?	Do you support Academic Libraries?	Do you have a library card?	Do you have any comments you would like to add?
Kerry Healey	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	<p>I have always been a strong supporter of public libraries, first as a private citizen, and then as Lieutenant Governor. From my own life experience, I firmly believe in the role our public libraries play as information providers and accessible educational resources. As Governor, I will continue to push for increased funding for public libraries throughout Massachusetts. During my term as Lt. Governor, I have been a consistent supporter of using state funds for the improvement of libraries and spoke about the need for strengthened government support at the Massachusetts Library Legislative Day in 2004. In 2005, I had the honor of delivering the keynote address at the American Library Association's Midwinter Advocacy Institute. The Romney/Healey Administration 2004 Capital Budget allocated \$19.3 million for the construction of public libraries. And this year, we increased state library funding by \$450,000 amid the seemingly endless competing priorities for finite state resources. In my hometown of Beverly I co-chaired the campaign to rebuild our branch library and helped raise more than \$1 million in private funds and grants because I believe that great libraries are a key component of a great community.</p>
Attorney General Tom Reilly	not answered	not answered	not answered	not answered	not answered	not answered	not answered	<p>Dear Ms. Glick-Weil: Please accept my apology as I was unable to meet the deadline for your gubernatorial candidate questionnaire. I strongly share the Massachusetts Library Association's commitment to ensuring that libraries retain their vital role in Massachusetts' public life. Our libraries are important community resources and offer some of society's most effective means for keeping the electorate informed and involved in public life. They are not only free centers for reading and research but also provide meeting space for non-profit and community groups, host educational and artistic programs and exhibitions, and even serve as makeshift museums. It is very important that state government help provide the resources necessary to maintain the Commonwealth's libraries as some of the best of the nation and ensure that all of our people have equal access to library resources. As Governor, I look forward to working with the Massachusetts Library Association to support our libraries and continue their traditions of excellence in serving our communities. Sincerely, Tom Reilly</p>