

House of Representatives Candidates Survey Responses

Name	House District	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?
John Andrulis	1st Hampshire	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	One reason we chose Northampton when we moved from N.J. was Forbes Library, which had more volumes than Western New England College (my employer.) As a professor (economics) for over three decades, I deeply appreciate the academic libraries (e.g. U. Mass, Smith, Mt Holyoke, Amherst) with their vast holdings of professional journals. I have supported both kinds of libraries (mostly with overdue fines) and will support them in the legislature, (with long overdue funds.)
Nicholas D. Bernier	4th Bristol District (Norton, Rehoboth, Seekonk, Swansea)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	I have made extensive use of the library system at school and at home. I am a big fan of the SAILS library network. It provides a great service to library patrons. Thank you for the service you provide to the community. As a State Representative, I will be ready to listen to your views and concerns. Please feel free to contact me anytime.
John J. Binienda, Sr.	17th Worcester	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	For the past 12 years I have worked to secure more funding for the Talking Book program in Worcester and those efforts have been successful.

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Deborah D. Blumer	6th Middlesex	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Dear President Glick-Weil, Thank you for the opportunity to respond to your questionnaire regarding support of public libraries. I represent a community with a population that is diverse - in education, income, language, jobs and professions, national origin, age and disabilities. Our library plays an important role in sharing knowledge, engendering curiosity and creativity and reinforcing civic engagement. If we didn't have this resource, we would certainly have to invent it -- even with the internet! Best wishes to you all for better funding in the future.
Lawrence Brennan	18th Essex	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	We're building here in Georgetown...big addition. Great team, great support from the Town.....
William N. Brownsberger	24th Middlesex	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Not Answered	Yes	Yes	I did not answer question 7 [re: School Libraries] because I am not sure how this would work. I want more aid for schools, but I do not want to tie the hands of school systems facing difficult priority choices.
Robert P. Burns	10th Worcester	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No, I oppose	Yes	Yes	
Rep Jennifer Callahan	18th Worcester	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Always supportive and use my position to advocate to public about such needs on a regular basis.

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Steve Canessa	12th Bristol	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Not Answered	
William R. Celester	6th Suffolk	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Severiano Cruz	5th Suffolk	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Steven D'Amico	4th Bristol	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Economic opportunity depends on quality education, an essential component of which is a vibrant public library system.
Stephen L. DiNatale	3rd Worcester District	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	
Rep Paul J. Donato	35th Middlesex	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Mark G. Dowgiewicz	8th Worcester	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	I support public libraries 100%. They provide a needed service to each community.
Patrick Driscoll	Worcester 6TH	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
James Eldridge	37 th Middlesex	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Since I have served as State Representative in 2003, all of the towns in the district that I represent (Acton, Boxborough, Harvard, Lancaster, Lunenburg & Shirley) either built a new library over the past 5 years or are building one now. I have been a strong supporter of all of them. On a more personal note, I am a member of the Friends of Acton Library, and I volunteer every year at the Acton memorial Library used book sale.
Lewis G. Evangelidis	1st Worcester	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes, with funding	Yes	Yes	Public libraries provide essential services, including socializing, for all 7 towns in my district.

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Christopher G. Fallon	33rd Middlesex	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	I believe the costs as cited herein above are grossly underestimated.
Mark Falzone	Ninth Essex	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	I sponsored the allocation bill for library resource-sharing and the library bond bill. I appeared before the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners in person, apparently one of the few legislators in recent memory to do so.
Jennifer Flanagan	4th Worcester District consisting of the City of Leominster	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	As the State Representative from Leominster I have worked diligently to secure funding for the expansion of the Leominster Public Library. I will continue to support public libraries because I feel they are an essential component of the community and provide a much needed resource for low income families.
Rep. John P. Fresolo	16th Worcester District	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	I have always supported additional funding for our public libraries in the Commonwealth and will continue to do so proudly.
Former State Rep Althea Garrison	5th Suffolk District	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	
Susan Williams Gifford	2 nd Plymouth	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	My voting record since I was elected (1-1-03) proves my support for our libraries. I pledge my continued support if re-elected!
Mary E. Grant	6th Essex	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Libraries are the very powerful resource for life long learning and I have always supported them
Greg Hanley	6th Plymouth	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Robert S. Hargraves	1st Middlesex	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Not Answered	Yes	Yes	
Rep. Lida E. Harkins	13th Norfolk	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Don Humason, Jr.	4th Hampden	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	This was an easy one! I've had my library card since I was 5 years old. I am a trustee, a corporator, and a friend of my hometown library, the Westfield Athenaeum. I am outspoken at the State house on library-related issues.

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Henry R. Irving	25TH Middlesex	Not Answered	Not Answered	Not Answered	Not Answered	Not Answered	Not Answered	Yes	Every question in this survey asks for my prospective support for increasing funding to the library system. I wonder if more time should be spent on improving and streamlining your operating plans. Funding is tight all over and every special interest considers itself a priority. I need to find out what my constituents think and where library issues fit on their list of priorities.
Kate M. Jackson	2nd Bristol	Yes	Yes	Not Answered	Not Answered	Yes	Yes	No	
Louis L. Kafka	8 th Norfolk	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Nate Kaplan	1 st Worcester	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Jay Kaufman	15th Middlesex	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Thanks for doing what you do. It makes it possible to do what I do.
John Keenan	7 th Essex	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Libraries are essential to the vitality of our democracy!
Stephen Kulik	1 st Franklin	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	I am a strong advocate for all libraries. I represent 16 small communities, many of which have built new libraries. I also am a supporter of the regional library system. Years ago, I was a trustee and volunteer at the library in Worthington—so my support goes way back!
David LeBlanc	3 rd Worcester	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
David Paul Linsky	5 th Middlesex	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes, Two	I consider support for public libraries to be among my highest budget priorities.

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Barbara A. L'Italien	18 th Essex	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes, One of my towns, Boxford, is on the wait list	Yes	Yes	Yes	I have met regularly with the directors of my libraries in Andover, North Andover, Boxford, Georgetown, Methuen, and Haverhill to learn their individual library needs and to coordinate advocacy for state-wide budgetary needs. I always support whatever they need—and have additionally lent support to Georgetown's 2 ½ override to help fund the building of an expanded library.
Patrick Long	4 th Berkshire	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Robert A. Marquis	4 th Bristol	Yes	Yes	Undecided	Yes	Yes	No	No	I support public and school libraries where the library environment is maintained (quiet, learning based situation)
Rep. Liz Malia	11th Suffolk	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Rosemary Miller	28th Middlesex	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	As Legislative Aide for Rep. Edward Connolly, I have worked closely with our local library and librarians. I have an education degree and recognize the value libraries serve in our communities. The trustees and librarians of the Everett libraries do a wonderful service to the residents of Everett and I am proud to say that I know them well.
Melissa Murgo	16th Worcester District	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Claire Naughton	1st Bristol	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	At the age of 16, my first job was as a library page in a public library where I learned the inner workings of a library and a lifelong very helpful knowledge of the Dewey Decimal system. As a career public school teacher, public libraries have always been important to me and my students. One of my sisters is a librarian in the state of Michigan and so I am familiar with the problems of funding public libraries. As a citizen, I realize the value of the public library system to our democratic society and will do all I can to help it remain strong.

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Richard W. Neitz	1 st Barnstable	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Leah O'Leary	12th Norfolk - Norwood & Walpole	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	I have always seen libraries as an integral part of our communities and our schools. They serve a great need for people. My priorities are the things that really matter to us, and, for me, libraries play a large part in that scheme. They are an essential resource for us, our children, our teachers, and our towns. As a legislator, I will work to see them flourish.
Marie J. Parente	10th Worcester District	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Not Answered	Yes	Yes	Yes, I am proud of our libraries & staff.
William Smitty Pignatelli	4 th Berkshire	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Elizabeth A. Poirier	14th Bristol	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Susan B. Pope	13th Middlesex	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Libraries are the focal point of any town. I will continue to support all items, budget requests and amendments that will increase money for libraries.
Jim Powell	Barnstable, Dukes, Nantucket	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes, several	As a high school teacher and member of the board of the Massachusetts Historical Records Archives Board, I enthusiastically support libraries. Libraries improve literacy, dissemination of knowledge, history is preserved and minds expanded. Investing in libraries and education are pillars of my candidacy. Always have been and always will.
Joanne Powell	Worcester 6th District	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes, my entire life	As a school committee member, I know how important school libraries are. I would love to see libraries included in Chapter 70 funds.

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Matthew Prah	16th Middlesex	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	The American public library system is one of the few places where anyone, regardless of race, religion, or social class, can have equal access to resources. This makes the public library a unique and special institution. Also, having worked at the Nease Library at Eastern Nazarene College for three years during my undergraduate studies, I have firsthand experience and knowledge of the need to have funding available to keep books, journals, and technology updated.
Denise Provost	27th Middlesex	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	I have long considered libraries the vital, unacknowledged mainstay of public education. As an Alderman in Somerville since 2000, I have been the city's strongest advocate for our library system.
Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr.	12th Hampden District	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Not Answered	Yes	Yes	As an attorney, and avid reader, I know the value of our library system. As a member of the City Council, I have been and continue to be a strong supporter of our public libraries. I have demonstrated strong commitment on a local level, and as a State Representative, I would do the same state-wide. I would certainly appreciate the support of the MLA. I will maintain an open door policy, where I would always be available to work with the MLA, leadership, and all stakeholders to support reasonable issues and legislation that will make our libraries stronger. Thanks so much Finally, I think your question number 3 on this on-line survey should not have the word "regional" in it. As it appears the tag line for questions 3 and 4 are the same - just wanted to let you know that.
Joseph Rice	14th Worcester	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
John Rogers	12th Norfolk	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	I have always been supportive of state funding for public libraries.
Carl Sciortino	34th Middlesex District	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Thank you for your advocacy during the budget process!

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Karen A. Spiewak	6th Worcester District	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	I support all libraries and will continue to do so as I know how important they are to a community. I have spent over 7 years volunteering on the Charlton Public Library Fundraising/Capital Campaign Committee. Together we raised over 1 million dollars for the renovation project now underway. This has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my life. Please visit my web site www.spiewakforstaterep.com for more information. I hope my flyer and web site combined with this survey sends a loud and clear message -- I love libraries. Thanks for this opportunity.
Robert Montgomery Thomas	4th Norfolk	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	The resource sharing network was very helpful to me several years back. My research could not have been completed without it.
Walter F. Timilty	7 th Norfolk	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Timothy J. Toomey, Jr.	26th Middlesex	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Anthony J. Verga	5 th Essex	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Each library is an institution of higher learning.
Patricia A. Walrath	3rd Middlesex	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Not Answered	Yes	Yes	
Alice K. Wolf	25TH Middlesex	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	With regard to the funding for school libraries, please note that inclusion in the school formula does not guarantee that a certain amount of money will go to libraries, only that a part of the Chapter 70 formula funds are there because of the existence of the libraries. For the state to guarantee the funds they would have to be earmarked. Right now, the school committees make the decisions.