

Senatorial Candidates Survey Responses

Name	Senate 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?
Michael Atwil	Bristol/Norfolk	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Edward M. Augustus, Jr.	2 nd Worcester	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	<p>Since joining the Legislature in Jan. 2005, ensuring that public libraries have adequate resources and support has been one of my top priorities. In fact, one of the hallmarks of my first term in office is the pending passage of S.2357: An Act Establishing the Public Libraries Fund and subsequent funding for the account at \$250,000. Originally filed in the Spring of 2005, this bill was engrossed by the Senate on July 26, 2006. Essentially, the program provides a fifty-cent state match for each dollar that public library foundations raise up to \$100,000 annually provided a foundation raises a minimum of \$2,000. Setting the maximum match at \$100,000 would ensure that both small and large communities have equal opportunity to benefit from the program.</p> <p>I have always been, and continue to be, a vocal advocate for funding for public library construction. On Oct. 19, 2005, I co-sponsored MLA's Public Library Construction Advocacy Day, which brought over thirty librarians from throughout the Commonwealth to the State House to advocate for library construction funding. In addition, I am proud to serve as the Senate Trustee for the George Finegold State Library.</p> <p>For over one hundred and fifty years, public libraries have been an integral part of communities throughout the Commonwealth, providing books, academic materials, and vast information services. As I visit each library in my district, reading to children and participating in various community events, I am reminded of the vital role they play in our communities.</p>

									Today, libraries have evolved to offer much more than books. I recognize that they are an invaluable resource to our cities and towns—offering print and electronic materials, community resources—serving not only as a dispensary of knowledge and information but a safe, welcoming gathering place for citizens of all ages and a safe, literacy-rich space for children and adolescents.
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Stephen M. Brewer	Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire, Franklin District	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Gale D. Candaras	1st Hampden-Hampshire	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	I've spoken many times about what our local library meant to me as a child growing up in the suburbs of N.Y.C. I never went to summer camp. I went to the library every several days (walking, of course) and always came home with an armful of books. As a State Representative, I've worked on several important library projects (as the MBLC knows) and am already engaged in the Wilbraham and Belchertown library renovations. I've also filed legislation to increase library funding by making the Springfield Public Library the library of last recourse for Western Mass in the state. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.
Harriette L. Chandler	1st Worcester	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	I have long been a supporter of libraries, and have worked as an advocate for most of these line items. I would be proud to be endorsed by the MLA.
Robert S. Creedon, Jr.	2 nd Plymouth & Bristol	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Cynthia Stone Creem	1st Middlesex & Norfolk	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	I cosponsored an amendment to the fiscal 2006 state budget which resulted in an increase of \$1.5 million for library technology.
Ron Cutler	1 st Hampden Hampshire	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Samiyah Diaz	Second Suffolk Senate District	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No, I oppose	Yes	Yes	

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Benjamin Downing	Berkshire, Hampshire, and Franklin	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	If given the honor to serve as state senator I will be a strong and consistent advocate for providing our libraries with the resources they need to adequately and effectively provide the public with a variety of important services.
Senator Susan Fargo	3rd Middlesex Senate District	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Joanna Gonsalves	Fourth Middlesex	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	I am proud of our library in Woburn but it can't accommodate the needs of the community. State funding is essential to our plans for expanding. Also as a teacher at Salem State College I agree that the college libraries have been under funded for years and this has impacted the quality of education.
Deirdre Healy	First Worcester District	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	As an attorney, I know the value of libraries for the requisite research I need to undertake, as well as the need for librarians who are always so helpful. Librarians are essential to a healthy democracy.
Patricia D. Jehlen	2nd Middlesex	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes, Somerville needs a new library!	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Brian A. Joyce	Norfolk, Bristol & Plymouth	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	I am the lead sponsor of "An Act Relative to Public Library Construction Funding." With the support of the legislature, and past and present administrations, the Commonwealth has established a model program for funding construction of public library buildings to meet the needs of an information society, become accessible to persons with disabilities, and to serve as community centers. In January 2004, the Romney/Healey Administration developed a capital plan that authorized the Board to conduct a new Construction Grant Round that will conclude in July 2005. The Public Library Construction Bond Bill that I sponsored would provide funds to cover new projects.
Senator Michael W. Morrissey	Norfolk & Plymouth	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	

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Matthias J. Mulvey	Plymouth & Norfolk District	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Education is a major topic in my district. I look forward to working with you in the future. Please check my web site, www.mattmulvey.com for other issues.
Stan Rosenberg	Hampshire and Franklin	Not Answered	Not Answered	Not Answered	Not Answered	Not Answered	Not Answered	Not Answered	<p>Thank you for contacting me . . . I know it is important to you and your membership that you be informed about positions and issues of importance to the candidates.</p> <p>While I appreciate your interest, as president Pro Tempore of the MA State Senate, it is my practice not to take a position on any legislation or budget initiatives before they actually come before the Senate. The job of a member of the Senate leadership team is one of fair assessment and in depth study of all legislation and budgetary needs of the commonwealth.</p> <p>I believe that I have given fair consideration of issues important to our libraries in the commonwealth through my years in the legislature and my record reflects my actions. I appreciate your efforts to identify candidate support for your interests. I hope you appreciate my efforts to be even handed.</p>
Pamela P. Resor	Middlesex and Worcester	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Not Answered	I have always supported library funding at the local and State level. I will continue to support these services because I truly believe in the value that a quality library adds to the community and that a state wide library system with the best resources and technology enhances our economy.

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Helen Sharron	Berkshire, Hampshire, & Franklin	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	I have always been an avid reader. I do not know what I would have done as a child without my local library. I was a librarian at the Frederick Sargeant Huntington Library in Worthington as a teenager, part of what I did to put myself through school. My mother was the librarian there after me for over 20 years. Thank you so much for allowing me to participate in your endorsement process. I appreciate the opportunity.
Sue Tucker	2 nd Essex & Middlesex	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	I have proudly been a leading voice for libraries in the Senate.
Enrico "Jack" Villamiaino, III	1st Hampden and Hampshire	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Please know that I have been an active patron and supporter of public and academic libraries for over 25 years.
Margaret Johnson Ware	Berkshire, Hampshire, Franklin	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes, Two!	My first "job" was shelving books for my aunt who was a librarian. She paid me 25 cents/hour out of her own pocket. I was 9 years old! I didn't realize that people bought books. We always took them out of the library.
John Zelazo	Berkshire-Hampshire-Franklin	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	