



TO: Interested Parties
FROM: DGA Political Director Chris Sloan
DATE: May 5, 2025
SUBJECT: Update on the Massachusetts Gubernatorial Race

Overview

A new internal poll conducted last week has Gov. Healey at her highest job approval rating since she took office. Gov. Healey's strong standing with voters combined with her favorable fundraising position, her record of delivering for the state, and her leadership standing up to Donald Trump has put her in an extremely strong position as we begin the 2026 election cycle.

Record of Accomplishment

Gov. Healey has already demonstrated a strong record of accomplishment on the issues that matter most to people:

- Under Gov. Healey, Massachusetts schools are rated #1 in the country while she has also expanded access to child care and vocational training, made community college cost free, and lowered the cost of public higher education;
- Gov. Healey passed tax cuts for the first time in 20 years as well as the largest housing bill in state history to lower costs;
- Gov. Healey and MBTA General Manager Phil Eng have made previously unthinkable progress toward fixing public transportation;
- Healey passed landmark legislation to greatly expand access for veterans and their families to services and benefits.

Gov. Healey is moving the state forward by proposing an \$8 billion transportation investment to fix our roads, bridges, and public transportation, taking groundbreaking actions to lower the costs of energy and housing, and continuing to invest in Massachusetts' schools.

Massachusetts is ranked as the #1 place to live, for innovation, for health care, to have a baby, to be a woman, and to be a working mom.

Trump

Gov. Healey is also leading on one of the issues that matter most to voters right now - standing up to Donald Trump to defend the best interests of Massachusetts. She has brought people together to oppose Trump's costly tariffs, fought against his cuts to lifesaving cures to diseases like cancer and Alzheimer's, made clear that Massachusetts continues to be committed to having people of diverse backgrounds at the table, and is standing up to Trump's efforts to silence our universities, law firms, and everyday people.

Poll Summary

DGA reviewed an internal Healey Committee poll conducted the last week of April by Beacon Research. The poll of 852 Massachusetts voters shows Gov. Healey in a very strong position:

- Her job approval rating is 59%, which is the highest since Healey came into office.

- In a head-to-head ballot test against the one declared Republican candidate, the Governor has more than a 20-point lead.
- Massachusetts voters think their state is doing better than the rest of the country – 51% think things are heading in the right direction in Massachusetts, compared to 36% who think the same about the country.
- Donald Trump is viewed unfavorably by 61% of Massachusetts voters, including 52% who view him very unfavorably. Fully 63% think his policies are negatively impacting the Massachusetts economy.
- One of the things voters like about Gov. Healey is they know she can be trusted to stand up to Trump and to do what is best for her state. A significant majority of voters see Gov. Healey as honest and trustworthy, a strong leader and someone who stands up for working people.

Fundraising Summary

Gov. Healey heads into this cycle with a strong fundraising base. Gov. Healey has approximately \$3 million cash on hand. That, combined with Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll's committee, means the Healey-Driscoll re-election effort has more than \$4 million on hand with more than 18 months to build on that before the November 2026 election.

Republican Opponents

We must note the (lackluster) state of play on the Republican side. Thus far, only one candidate has entered the race, Mike Kennealy, and he has shown he is not ready for prime time. He has already made clear that he refuses to stand up to Donald Trump at a time when Massachusetts voters see the damage Trump is doing every day.

Since he started the race, Kennealy has:

- Admitted that he didn't vote for a president in the last three elections, meaning he couldn't be bothered to do the bare minimum to oppose Donald Trump;
- Refused to take a position on any of Attorney General Andrea Campbell's lawsuits defending Massachusetts against Trump's dangerous policies; and
- Refused to oppose Donald Trump's economy draining tariffs or NIH cuts.

Kennealy is in the position of already angering the majority of Massachusetts voters by refusing to stand up to Donald Trump while at the same time angering the majority of Republican primary voters by not voting for Donald Trump in three elections.

We also expect other Republican candidates to enter the race who will bring Trumpism to Massachusetts at the very time that the vast majority of Massachusetts voters stand against it.

Next Steps

Gov. Healey and Lieutenant Governor Driscoll are doing an incredible job and are in an outstanding position as this race moves forward, but there is a long way to go. We ask that you continue to support them by getting the word out about their work, engaging with their powerful grassroots organization, and supporting them financially. If we do, we are confident that Gov. Healey will continue to lead Massachusetts forward and win this election.

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