



September 21, 2020

Dear Legislator,

Fighting COVID-19, relieving the economic damage it is causing for Massachusetts workers, families, and businesses, and tackling the racial inequities that exist throughout our society – these urgent priorities all require state spending on education, healthcare, transportation, housing, safety net programs, emergency paid sick time, and other critical public services. But as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, state and local budget shortfalls are already causing budget cuts, layoffs, and furloughs across the Commonwealth.

State budget cuts will only worsen the effects of the economic downturn, impair our recovery, and further harm the people and communities who are already disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, especially people of color, immigrants, and low-income communities. **As lawmakers, you have a choice: you can let deep budget cuts drive us deeper into a recession that deepens racial inequities, or you can invest in public services that improve public health, grow our economy, and reduce racial inequities.**

Throughout this economic crisis, many large corporations continue to generate enormous profits that flow overwhelmingly to the wealthiest shareholders. And for years, these large corporations have used loopholes, tax breaks, and weak corporate disclosure laws to avoid paying their fair share of taxes. If federal aid and the state's rainy day fund are not sufficient to make up for the drop in state revenue, profitable corporations and their shareholders should pay more to support our economic recovery.

By increasing the tax rate on corporate profits, conforming to federal law for the taxation of domestic profits that are shifted overseas (known as GILTI, or 'Global Intangible Low Taxed Income'), and increasing the tax rate that investors pay on unearned income, Massachusetts can raise significant new revenue from profitable corporations and their shareholders, avoid destructive budget cuts, and instead, invest in the areas of the state budget necessary for an equitable recovery.

We, the 157 undersigned organizations and individuals, call on you to raise significant new revenue from profitable corporations and their shareholders before making any budget cuts that would hurt our recovery.

There is incredibly strong public support for taxing profitable corporations and their wealthy investors. Recent polling data, attached, shows that **between 70 percent and 85 percent of Massachusetts voters support each of the three revenue policies we are calling for.** Working people have made many sacrifices to

help fight the coronavirus and get our economy back on a steady footing. Our polling shows that overwhelmingly, voters want profitable corporations and their wealthy shareholders to do their part as well.

Together, let's raise new revenue, avoid destructive budget cuts, and invest in public services that improve public health, grow our economy, and reduce racial inequities.

Sincerely,

Raise Up Massachusetts

And the 157 undersigned organizations:

1199 SEIU

350 Central Mass

350 Massachusetts

Allston Brighton Health Collaborative

Alternatives for Community &
Environment

American Federation of Teachers
Massachusetts

Arise for Social Justice

Asian American Resource Workshop

Bellingham Democratic Town
Committee

Berkshire Interfaith Organizing

Boston Asian: Youth Essential Service

Cambridge Economic Opportunity
Committee Inc

Castle Square Tenants Organization

Center for Health Law and Policy
Innovation, Harvard Law School

Central Massachusetts Housing
Alliance

Chinese Progressive Association

Citizens for Public Schools

Climate Action Now, Western Mass

Coalition for Social Justice

Codman Square NDC

Cohasset Democratic Town
Committee

CommonWealth Kitchen

Community Action Agency of
Somerville, Inc.

Community Action Works Campaigns

Community Health Network for North
Central Mass

Community Labor United

Dominican Development Center, Inc

Dorchester People for Peace

Economic Mobility Pathways
(EMPath)

Educators for Excellence Boston

Elders Climate Action - Massachusetts
Chapter

Eliot Community Human Services -
PATH

Episcopal City Mission

Everett Teachers Association

Fenway Health

Franklin County Community
Development Corporation

Franklin County Continuing the Political Revolution
Franklin County Continuing the Political Revolution, Climate Task Force
GLBTQ Legal Advocates & Defenders
Greater Boston Legal Services
Greater Lowell Health Alliance
Greater New Bedford Community Health Center
Greater Southeastern Massachusetts Labor Council
Green Sanctuary
Groundwork Lawrence
H&HS Consulting Group
Health Care For All
Health Law Advocates
Health Resources in Action
Healthy Families EITC Coalition
Hildreth Institute
Holyoke Ward 5 Democratic Committee
Homes for Families
I Have A Future
Immigrants' Assistance Center, Inc. (IAC)
Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Development Corp
Jamaica Plain Progressives
Jane Doe Inc.
Jewish Alliance for Law and Social Action
John Snow, Inc.
Juliet Restaurant Workers

La Colaborativa – The Chelsea Collaborative
La Comunidad, Inc
Lawrence CommunityWorks
Lexington Democratic Town Committee
Local Enterprise Assistance Fund
Louis D. Brown Peace Institute
Lynn United for Change
Madison Park Development Corporation
Malden Education Association
Mass Alliance
Massachusetts Association of Community Development Corporations
Massachusetts AFL-CIO
Massachusetts Association for Community Action (MASSCAP)
Massachusetts Association of Health Boards
Massachusetts Budget and Policy Center
Massachusetts Chapter of the National Organization for Women
Massachusetts Climate Action Network
Massachusetts Coalition for Adult Education
Massachusetts Coalition for Health Equity
Massachusetts Coalition for Occupational Safety & Health
Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless
Massachusetts Communities Action Network

Massachusetts Councils on Aging
Massachusetts Democratic Party
Massachusetts Education Justice Alliance
Massachusetts Food System Collaborative
Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition
Massachusetts Jobs with Justice
Massachusetts Law Reform Institute
Massachusetts Peace Action
Massachusetts Public Health Association
Massachusetts Senior Action Council
Massachusetts Social Democrats
Massachusetts Teachers Association
Massachusetts Voter Education Network, Inc.
Massachusetts Voter Table
Medford Democratic City Committee
Merrimack Valley Project, Inc.
Mill City Grows
Missions and Social Justice Committee of First Church in Cambridge UCC
MLPB (f/k/a Medical Legal Partnership | Boston)
NAACP Berkshire County Branch
NAACP, New England Area Conference
National Association of Social Workers, MA Chapter
Neighbor to Neighbor MA
New Bedford Democratic City Committee
New England Jewish Labor Committee
Our Climate

Our Revolution Massachusetts
Parenting Journey
PHENOM (Public Higher Education Network of Massachusetts)
Professional Staff Union (MTA/NEA)
Progressive Democrats of Massachusetts
Progressive Massachusetts
Progressive Needham
Progressive WROX/ROZ
Project Bread
Project RIGHT, Inc.
Prophetic Resistance Boston
Resist the Pipeline
Rian Immigrant Center
Rosie's Place
Safe Medford
Seacoast Raise Up Massachusetts Activists
SEIU Community Action
SEIU Local 509
SEIU Local 888
SEIU Massachusetts State Council
Shirley Democratic Town Committee
Sociedad Latina
Somerville Community Corporation
Springfield Education Association
Springfield No One Leaves
Task Force on Coronavirus and Equity
The Center for Teen Empowerment
The Food Bank of Western Massachusetts
The Greater Boston Food Bank

The Midas Collaborative
Three Rivers Progressive Mass
UAW 2322 (Peer Mentors and RA's)
UFCW 1445
UMASS Professional Staff Union
Union Capital Boston
Unitarian Universalist Mass Action
UNITE HERE Local 26
United Interfaith Action of
Southeastern MA
United Way of Hampshire County
University of Massachusetts Medical
School
Western MA Network to End
Homelessness
Western Massachusetts Area Labor
Federation
Women Encouraging Empowerment,
Inc.
Worcester County Food Bank, Inc
Worcester Interfaith
Yes Northampton
Youth Transitions Task Force
Zero Debt Massachusetts