

Greylock Together

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Candidate for State Representative, 1st Berkshire District

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Legislation Survey 2017

Greylock Together is a group of 400+ progressive activists dedicated to promoting traditional American values of justice, freedom, and equity. Over the course of several months, we used group surveys, discussion, and votes at our meetings to identify a set of specific legislative goals that we want to see accomplished to improve our lives, the lives of our children, and the lives of our neighbors. These goals are all strongly supported by a supermajority of our members. As our representative or prospective representative, we would very much like to hear your position on the following issues. The answers will help us determine what our priorities for activism. Please fill out this survey and return it to us.

End gerrymandering by drawing congressional districts via nonpartisan institutions.

Please check one: **Support** Partially Support Don't Support

Further comments: Districts should be fair and reflect common geographical boundaries free from politics.

Automatically register voters.

Please check one: **Support** Partially Support Don't Support

Further comments: Everyone should have the opportunity to vote once they are the age of 18. Automatic Voter Registration has proven in other states to encourage people eligible of voting to vote who may have not registered otherwise. I believe that the implementation of Automatic Voter Registration in Massachusetts would break down barriers some may find to voting.

End the biased disenfranchisement of felons.

Please check one: **Support** Partially Support Don't Support

Further comments: Everyone should have the right to vote, including those who have had felony charges. Felony Disenfranchisement currently prevents 6.1 million Americans from voting, resulting in about 1 in 13 African Americans losing their right to vote as opposed to 1 in 56 non-black felons. This prevents felons from having a voice in a system that they have been involved in and losing their voice to elect someone who may have their best interests in mind.

End monetary bail.

Please check one: **Support** Partially Support Don't Support

Further comments: Six in 10 adults in U.S. jails have not been convicted of a crime. They are locked up awaiting trial, mostly because they're too impoverished to post bail.

Make net neutrality the law and regulate internet service providers as utilities.

Please check one: **Support** Partially Support Don't Support

Further comments: Absolutely, it is extremely important that everyone have equal access to the internet. Freedom of Speech should apply to the internet, we must protect our freedom to information.

Prevent internet service providers from selling your private information.

Please check one: **Support** Partially Support Don't Support

Further comments: This is mostly a federal issue, but it is important that we on the state and local levels support and advocate for this when we can.

Amend the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to include sexual orientation and gender identity as protected classes.

Please check one: **Support** Partially Support Don't Support

Further comments: The United States Constitution states that all people were created equal and should be treated as such. It is important that we make sure that the civil rights of all are protected under the law.

Actively welcome refugees and support their settlement.

Please check one: **Support** Partially Support Don't Support

Further comments: We are a nation of immigrants. Now more than ever it is important that we show our support for those who want to make America their home.

Make election day a national holiday.

Please check one: **Support** Partially Support Don't Support

Further comments: This is obviously a federal issue but it is one that I support. In our democracy everyone should have the opportunity to take advantage of the democratic process without having to make the choice between working and fulfilling their civic duty.

All workers should get paid family leave.

Please check one: **Support** Partially Support Don't Support

Further comments: No one should have to choose between their job and caring for a sick family member or a new child. It's time Massachusetts addresses these issues and creates a critical safety net for workers and their families. I support the creation of a new state program that provides benefits for workers to take up to 12 weeks of family care leave (to care for a new child or address a family medical emergency) and up to 26 weeks of temporary disability leave to take care of their own health.

Revise the tax code to eliminate abusive loopholes for the wealthy, such as systematic misclassification of employees as independent contractors.

Please check one: **Support** Partially Support Don't Support

Further comments: _____

Simplify the process of filing tax returns.

Please check one: **Support** Partially Support Don't Support

Further comments: It shouldn't take taxpayers hours of their time and money spent on tax preparation companies to file their taxes each year.

Protect the rights of workers to unionize, and penalize those companies that try to take away their rights.

Please check one: **Support** Partially Support Don't Support

Further comments: _____

Make it easier for employees to sue over wage theft and get compensated for the hours of their life that have been stolen.

Please check one: **Support** Partially Support Don't Support

Further comments: I support the triple damages penalty in law presently as a deterrent for nonpayment of wages. _____

Require all major employers provide at least some minimal amount of paid sick leave.

Please check one: **Support** Partially Support Don't Support

Further comments: _____

Provide a public healthcare option.

Please check one: **Support** Partially Support Don't Support

Further comments: Single Payer Healthcare is the goal.