

# PUBLIC HEALTH VOTER CHECKLIST

## IMPROVING PUBLIC HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE

- For candidates running for statewide office:* Does the candidate support elevating the Commissioner of Public Health to a cabinet level position?
- For candidates running for statewide office:* Does the candidate have a clear plan for mitigating the impacts of future waves COVID-19 variants, including strategies for delivering additional rounds of vaccine to hard-hit communities and marginalized populations?

## TRANSFORMING THE LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH SYSTEM

- Does the candidate support creating a 21st-century local public health system for Massachusetts that includes minimum standards for every community?
- Does the candidate support allocating state funding on an annual basis to help local boards of health achieve minimum standards and provide equitable public health protections to all Massachusetts residents?

## ADDRESSING THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING CRISIS

- Will the candidate prioritize affordable housing policy solutions that are supported by communities that have been disproportionately harmed by racist housing policies and practices?
- Does the candidate support lifting the ban on rent control in Massachusetts?

## INVESTING IN PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

- Is the candidate committed to providing affordable and reliable public transportation across the state, in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve air quality in low-income communities and improve public health outcomes?
- Does the candidate support making Regional Transit Authority (RTA) and Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority (MBTA) buses fare free?

## ADDRESSING THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC

- Does the candidate support support legislation to authorize safe consumption sites in Massachusetts?
- Does the candidate support a public health approach to addressing the opioid epidemic and increasing evidence-based treatment for substance use disorders?