

We, the undersigned, hereby request that the following resolution be approved by the Resolutions Committee and submitted to the full Democratic State Committee for adoption (List includes all those who signed at the State Convention):

## **Resolution in Support of The State Auditor's Efforts to Conduct an Audit of the Massachusetts Legislature**

**Alternative title: Resolution to Support Regular Audits of the Massachusetts Legislature for Enhanced Accountability and Transparency**

*Whereas:* The 2021 Massachusetts Democratic Party Platform, under the section entitled ETHICS AND TRANSPARENCY declares:

“Public officials must be held to the highest standards of integrity and accountability. A good government is open and inclusive. The future of our democracy hinges on preserving the public’s trust in government and our elected officials.”; and

*Whereas:* The Platform further states that “Democrats will fight for:

- A legislative process that provides fair opportunities for citizen engagement and ensures the public has convenient and financially reasonable access to all public documents and data at the executive, legislative, judicial, and local levels of government;
- Systematic investments in rigorous research, including evaluations of new and existing government policies and programs;
- Stricter compliance with the Massachusetts Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) by state and local government entities”; and

*Whereas:* Transparency, accountability, and fiscal responsibility in all branches of the Massachusetts state government are foundational to our democracy, and

*Whereas:* the Legislature often operates with limited public oversight, having not been audited in over three decades; and

*Whereas:* The Legislature’s exemptions around pivotal transparency laws such as the Open Meeting Law, Public Records Law, and Conflict of Interest Law, highlight a significant accountability gap; and

*Whereas:* An inclusive commission, comprising legislators, former legislators, academics, journalists, advocates, and citizens, offers a potential route to scrutinize the Legislature’s operations, policies, and procedures; and such an audit would foster public trust, identify best practices, highlight areas for enhancement, and pinpoint potential discrepancies;

*Therefore, be it resolved:*

That the Massachusetts Democratic Party wholeheartedly supports periodic, independent audits of the Massachusetts Legislature to strengthen the pillars of transparency, efficiency, and fiscal responsibility within the Massachusetts Legislature and appeals to all legislative members to fully and transparently support this pivotal task; and

*Be it further resolved:*

That the Massachusetts Democratic Party endorses the state auditor's initiatives, including any necessary legal action against any impediments to their audit efforts.

FirstName	LastName	City	Delegate	ExOfficio	AddOn
Tracy	Albernaz	Swansea	x		
Barbara	Atkins	Arlington	x		
Margot	Barnet	Worcester	x		
Charles	Battle	Springfield		x	
Anthony	Beattie	Pepperell			x
Robin	Bergman	Arlington	x		
Douglas	Borowski	North Brookfield	x		
Joel	Buenaventura	Quincy	x		
Janet	Cason	Northborough	x		
Steven	Camara	Fall River		x	
Mary	Ciummo	Bolton	x		
Rosemary	Connolly	Whitman	x		
Jill	Crowley	Bolton	x		
Alex	Crowley	Weymouth	x		
Lance	Davis	Somerville	x		
Maria	Dejesus	Middleboro	x		
Edward	Dube	Burlington	x		
Jacqueline	Ducharme	Wayland	x		
Justin	Evans	Whitman	x		
Michael	Fahey	Medway		x	
Susan	Fendell	Somerville	x		
Stephen	Fishman	Shrewsbury	x		
Kathleen	Fox Alfano	Bourne	x		
Frances	Frederick	West Springfield		x	
Michael	Gilbreath	Wayland		x	
Jesse	Gordon	Randolph		x	
Richard	Hanauer	Oxford	x		
Karen	Hansmann	Chicopee		x	
Buzz	Harris	Berlin	x		
Jared	Hicks	Boston		x	
Thomas	Hidalgo	Wilbraham	x		
Randy	Hill	Whitman	x		
Tashena	Holmes	North Brookfield	x		
Christina	Hughes	Middleboro	x		
Elizabeth	Johnson	Shirley	x		
Donna	Jones	Brockton		x	
Halley	Kelly	Berlin		x	
Ernest	Kim	Cambridge	x		
Cara	Lapenas	Belchertown		x	
Douglas	Lawrence	Framingham	x		

Heidi	Lewis	Somerville	x		
Amanda	Linehan	Malden	x		
Ryan	Lloyd	Tewksbury	x		
Lauri-Ellen	Lynn	Fall River	x		
Rumel	Mahmood	Stow	x		
Jane	Malick-Nugent	Ashland	x		
Daniel	Mantell	Hanover	x		
Rachel	Martin	Swansea	x		
Linda	Matys	Springfield	x		
Thomas	Meagher	Danvers	x		
Matthew	Moncreaff	Princeton		x	
Katherine	Murphy	Framingham	x		
Ellyn	Newkirk	Weymouth	x		
Deborah	Nicholson	Cambridge		x	
Mary	Norcross	Somerville	x		
Geoffrey	O'connell	Springfield	x		
Richard	Odachowski	Braintree			x
Kenneth	Parker	Hopkinton	x		
Joseph	Quigley	New Bedford	x		
Maury	Ramirez	Worcester	x		
Kate	Schlesinger	Worcester	x		
Kairo	Serna	Amherst	x		
Jessica	Smith	North Brookfield	x		
Hugh	Smith	Andover			x
Nancy	Stenberg	Easthampton		x	
Mary	Sullivan	Stoughton	x		
Samuel	Sullivan-Fieldman	Acton	x		
Matthew	Szafranski	Springfield		x	
Christine	Szuskiewicz	Dartmouth	x		
O	Taccogna	Marstons Mills	x		
Michael	Tietjen	Northborough		x	
Brianne	Vieira	Dartmouth	x		
William	Webber	Ashburnham	x		
Joan	Webber	Ashburnham	x		
Jessica	Wetzel	Woburn	x		
Rand	Wilson	Somerville	x		
Henry	Wortis	Cambridge	x		
Lisa	Wysocki	Berlin	x		
Kevin	York	Wakefield	x		
Leonard	Zaluskas	Worcester	x		