

Fighting for a More Equitable Massachusetts Economy

The campaign for the Fair Share Amendment starts with activists speaking up on our unjust economy!



AFT Massachusetts is a core partner in Fair Share Mass

- Passing the Fair Share Amendment is a key priority of AFT Massachusetts
- To Fund the groundbreaking Student Opportunity Act we will need revenue from this amendment
- In order to win on the ballot, we need AFT Locals throughout the state to participate in our campaign



What is The Fair Share Amendment?

- An amendment to the state constitution that increases the tax on incomes **over** \$1 million by 4 percentage points
- Essentially 4 cents per dollar on every dollar **over** one million
- The revenue raised from the Fair Share Amendment is dedicated towards transportation and public education



Fair Share Advances to the Ballot



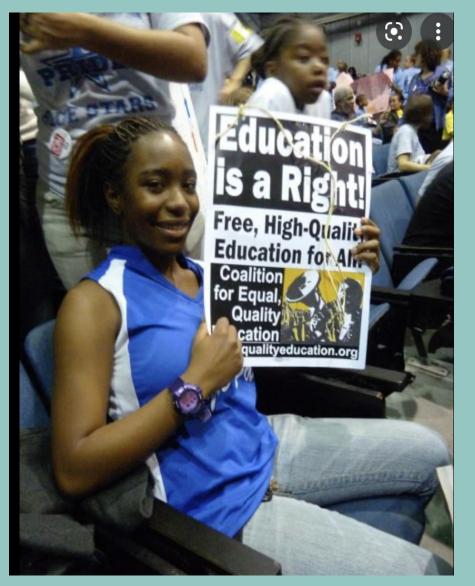
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History of the Fair Share Campaign

- Grassroots effort to address inequality across the Commonwealth
- Launched in 2015 by collecting over 150,000 signatures to qualify for the ballot
- Business and Corporate lobby attacked Fair Share and raised MILLIONs for a lawsuit - the SJC sided with them and deemed Fair Share unconstitutional
- Re-filed by Rep. O'Day and Sen. Lewis as a legislative proposal which requires two constitutional conventions with at least 50% passage



Fair Share will fund a Quality Public Education System that Serves Everyone







Fair Share will fund: A Quality Transportation System That Works For Everyone







The opposition will say: "We should not be raising taxes "

The millionaire tax is now on the 2022 ballot in Massachusetts. Charlie Baker still opposes it.

"I don't think we should be raising taxes."



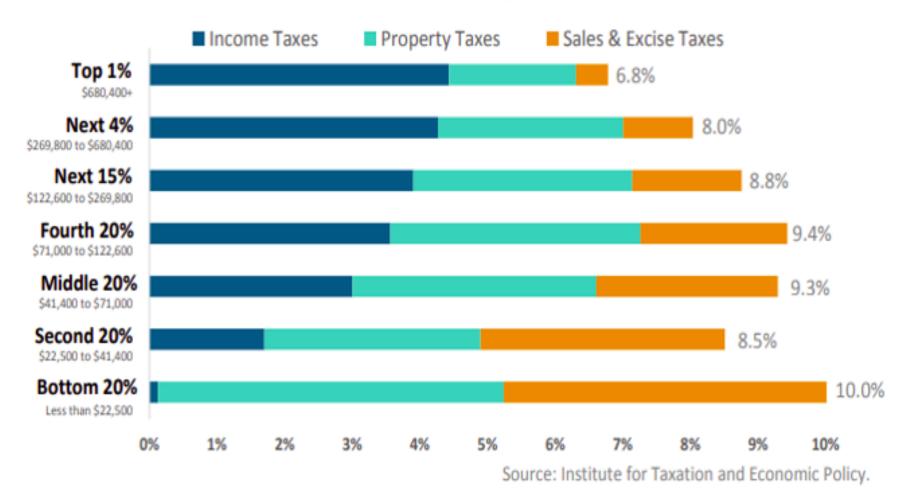
- Current system is

 regressive: Top 1% pay a
 smaller share of income
 in state and local tax
 compared to the rest of us
- FSA only raises taxes on those earning over \$1 Million
- Wealthy investors profited during pandemic



Highest Income Taxpayers Pay Smaller Share of Income in State and Local Taxes

% of personal income paid in state and local taxes, 2018 projection

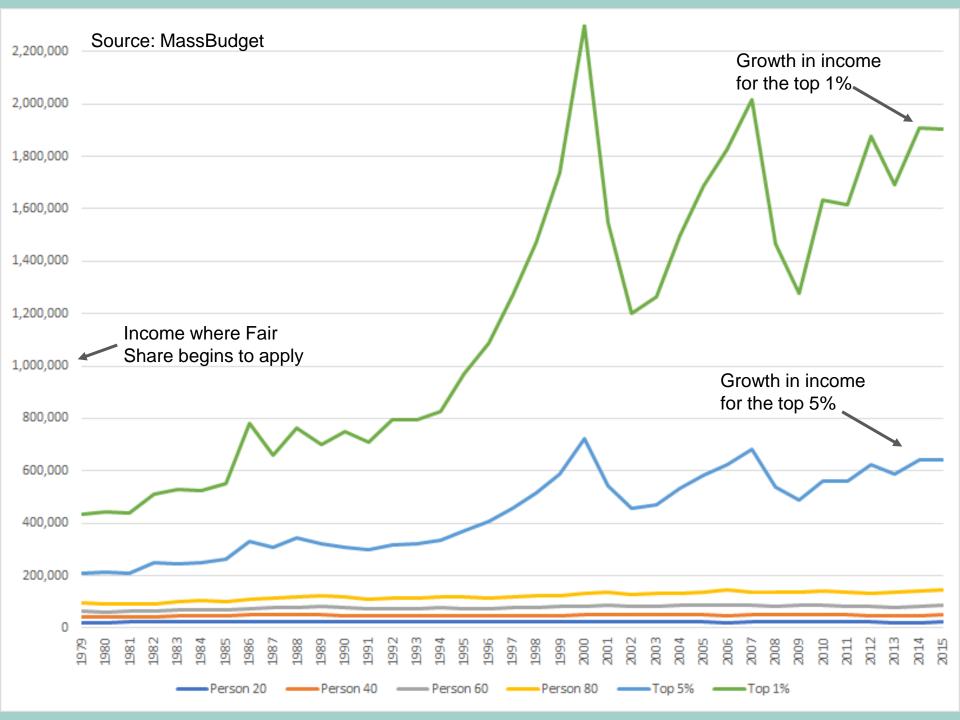


Source: Massachusetts Budget and Policy Center, https://massbudget.org/reports/pdf/Who%20Pays%20in%20MA%202018%20FINAL.pdf The opposition will say: "We don't need the money. We are getting ARPA funds"



- American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) is a one time payment, not a permanent answer. ARPA can be a bridge to long term funding, not an end in itself.
- ARPA funds make up for lost revenue from COVID and to fund COVID-related costs like testing, personal protective equipment, public health infrastructure, and hazard pay for essential workers
- We need long term sustainable revenue to fund education and our transit system.





The opposition will say: "It will drive business and millionaires out of state"



- Not true! Business owners say they are expanding and that taxes are not a major factor. Our universities and health care sectors are key anchors for many businesses.
- Economic studies of similar successful initiatives in other states did not experience flight of highest income residents or businesses
- More than 70 Massachusetts economists publicly support FSA because it will improve economy with better transportation and education



So...How do we win on November 8, 2022?



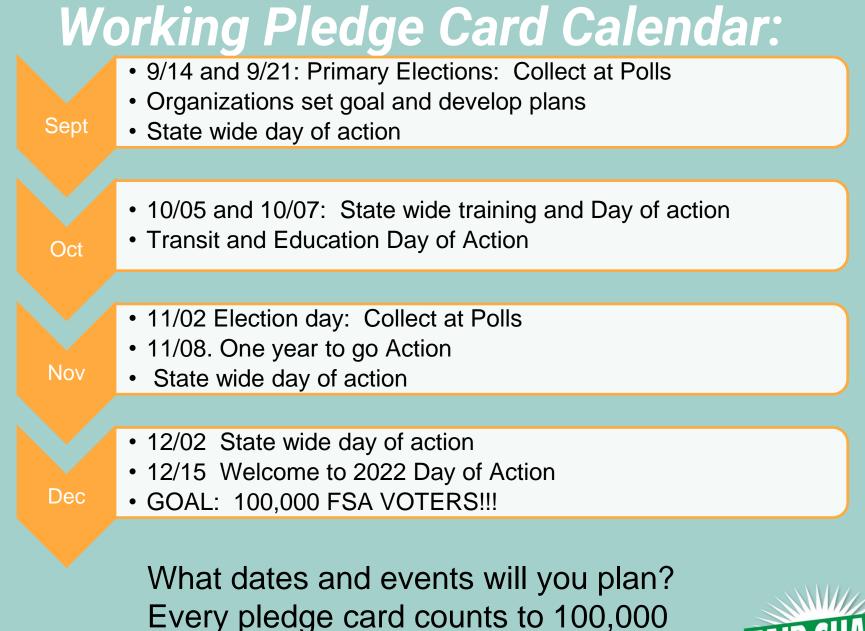


Our Campaign Starts Now!



- Kickoffs happened throughout the state
- AFT Massachusetts committed to 5000 cards
- Toolkits to use in your building
- Use electronic and physical pledge card Integrate into newsletters and actions Join with state wide campaign action dates Hold phone bank and text events





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Sign a pledge card now

raiseupma.us/aft



Resources

- Pledge https://raiseupma.us/aft
- Pop Ed Training for members: https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1haRgbUDFKkIrab9dvjQ4PnEI_zY3B eQIYWSnGoo2KYk/edit#slide=id.p
- **Preparing for election day** means filling shifts for pledge card collectors at polls and watching our beautiful tracker fill up with data. Here are those links:
- Here is the link to the **signup form:** <u>https://raiseupma.us/eday</u>
- Here is the link to the **tracker**: <u>https://raiseupma.us/data</u>
- FAQ on Fair Share (will be posted in the chat)
- Printed pledge cards, QR code and trifold available from Raise Up

