

# June Updates

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June 4, 2026

Dear Jeffrey,

It's been a busy time – in Boston and in the district -- the Massachusetts House passed our \$63.4 billion budget for fiscal year 2027 (FY27), we passed legislation to strengthen laws to prevent Trump's immoral and illegal immigration enforcement from interfering with our system – and the process - of justice. I've met with constituents in the district, students in their classrooms,



hosted constituent visits to the State House, and more.

Throughout my four terms in elected office, my focus has been to be a strong voice for our district's needs and priorities, to work in coalition with other legislators and advocates to advance efforts that create more fairness, more justice and more economic security, and to do so with transparency, accountability and an emphasis on providing information and opportunities for civic action and community connection. I will continue to bring this commitment to my work on a variety of issues of importance to the district.

### **Legislative Transparency**

Transparency, accountability and providing support for our community are my core principles in public service. So the controversy around the state auditor's singular focus on auditing the Legislature has been of interest (and some puzzlement) to me. You see, the Legislature already is subject to a financial audit and posts those reports online (see the [House's audits here](#)). Also, the concerns about the constitutionality of a member of the executive branch auditing the policies and practices of the legislative branch ring true to me, and the extent of the audit has seemed like significant overreach. You can read this [Boston Globe op-ed in October 2024 by UMass Amherst professor Ray LaRaja](#) on the referendum question about the audit.

Yesterday, by a vote of 125-28, the Massachusetts House passed a bill to establish a framework to authorize the State Auditor's office to audit the Legislature; subject the Governor's Office to the existing public records law; and apply a formal public records request process to the Legislature for the first time. Together, these provisions add to previous transparency reforms pursued by the House (for example the public reporting of committee votes and access to committee testimony), while affirming and preserving the constitutional privileges of the Legislature. The bill specifies which documents would be provided as part of a financial audit, based on the list that the Auditor's Office recently provided to the Supreme Judicial Court in Boston.

The bill also provides the Legislature with 60 days to review and respond to any audits before they are made public. That provision is logical if the purpose of the audit is to identify problems and lead the Legislature to remedy them. The



bill makes clear the distinction between an administrative audit (on financial practices) vs. an audit of our constitutional duties. I appreciate this.

Requiring the governor's office to adhere to the public records law and establishing a public records requirement for the Legislature is a huge step forward in ensuring public access to public records. Good-government advocates such as Common Cause and the ACLU of Massachusetts helped make this bill reflect best practices.

As someone who has marched with many of you at NO KINGS rallies this year, I know my community wants our elected officials to stand up for their authority and responsibility – separate from a president, a governor or an auditor. I also know that, as your state representative, I am only accountable to my constituents and to my oath to protect the Massachusetts constitution. It's my duty to push back against bullying or attacking public servants, and it's my responsibility to call out those who misinform and mislead my constituents. In some ways, the fight in Massachusetts mirrors the struggle in Washington.

More on this vote in our next e-news. Please let me know your thoughts [mindyforma@gmail.com](mailto:mindyforma@gmail.com).

## **BUDGET SEASON**

The House passed its budget in late April, and the Senate passed its version last week. A conference committee with three members from each body will reconcile the two versions and negotiate a unified budget to send to the governor. During House budget week, I brought my colleagues Atkins Farm Market cider donuts to keep us nourished during the long hours of the debate (and to promote the district!). Needless to say, they were the talk of the State House.





Details of the House-passed budget can be found in this [press release](#) including where Fair Share (“millionaires’ tax”) revenue is proposed to be spent.

### Local Investments

I’m proud to have secured the following local investments (sometimes referred to as “earmarks”), which will contribute to building our communities:

- [Transhealth](#) \$75,000 to support their operations.
- [Amherst-Pelham Regional School District’s Early Childhood Center pre-K program](#), \$100,000.
- [Amherst Fire Department](#), \$50,000 to purchase equipment including a station alerting system.
- [Granby Fire Department](#), \$60,000 to purchase equipment including portable communication radios.
- [Amherst Survival Center](#), \$30,000 to support its food pantry program.
- [Granby to Go](#), \$20,000 to support the in-school food pantry and clothing distribution programs.



- [Jones Library](#), \$50,000 for construction of an all-gender compliant bathroom.
- [Senior FarmShare of Community Involved in Sustaining Agriculture](#), \$100,000 to support farm shares for low-income seniors in our region.
- [Center for Women and Community](#), \$60,000 to support community services.

I also had the opportunity to work with the [Healthy Families Tax Credits Coalition](#), [Children's Healthwatch](#) and [Community Action](#) to successfully advocate to fully fund the [Volunteer Income Tax Assistance \(VITA\)](#) program. This program is a critical tool to assist low-income households access tax credits available to them. I'm proud that the House restored the funding to this program (at \$1.5 million), particularly during this affordability crisis. The return on investment in this program is 60:1, and it brings these funds directly to households that spend it into the Massachusetts economy. When we talk about addressing the affordability crisis, this program is essential.

In addition, I co-sponsored and advocated for other statewide programs, such as the Immigrant Legal Defense Fund, the right to public counsel in housing cases, Healthy Incentive Program (HIP), full funding for the Massachusetts Food Program, and others. In addition, I filed amendments to secure funding for the [Buy Local](#) and [Requiment](#) programs.

Here are budget highlights from the House budget; some of these will be subject to the conference committee discussions (which address every instance of difference between the House and the Senate versions).

### Key Investments of the FY27 House Budget

- **\$2.7 billion** for education and transportation, funded through the Fair Share ballot initiative.
- **\$10 billion** to cities and towns.
- **\$217.5 million** for 15 regional transit authorities.

### Affordable & Accessible Housing and Homelessness Support

- **\$115 million** for programs serving individuals experiencing homelessness.
- **\$281.3 million** for the Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program (MRVP).



- **\$210 million** for the Rental Assistance for Families in Transition program (RAFT).
- **\$82.3 million** for HomeBASE, which helps families that are eligible for emergency family shelter assistance find stable housing.
- **\$19 million** for the alternative housing voucher program to support people with disabilities live independently.

### **Aging and Independence**

- **\$505 million** for Community Choices health care services.
- **\$298 million** for Elder Home Care services.
- **\$113 million** for Elder Home Care case management.
- **\$30 million** for Councils on Aging grants.
- **\$12 million** for supportive senior housing at state and federal sites.
- **\$5 million** for the Prescription Advantage insurance program.

### **Community Development and Small Business**

- **\$1.4 million** for the [Small Business Development Center at UMass](#) to support the federal-state-academic partnership to support entrepreneurship in Massachusetts.
- **\$1.5 million** for Massachusetts Office of Business Development to support businesses in expanding and securing access to capital.
- **\$3 million** for technical assistance for regional planning agencies..
- **\$5 million** to help non-profits and community development corporations start, stabilize and expand their businesses.
- **\$5 million** for Housing Consumer Education Centers that provide housing search assistance, referrals, case management and other services.

### **Economic Development**

- **\$5 million** for grants to non-profits that help small businesses with training and access to capital.
- **\$5 million** for Community Action Agency operations and outreach, strengthening efforts to address food insecurity and other community needs.
- **\$3 million** for first-time homebuyer counseling and foreclosure prevention.
- **\$2 million** for the Massachusetts Manufacturing Extension Partnership.



- **\$1 million** for the Massachusetts Office of Business Development to support regional economic development, business growth and retention.

## Education

### *Early Education and Care*

- **\$598.6 million** for childcare for children involved with the Department of Children and Families (DCF) and Department of Transitional Assistance (DTA), with access for families in the Emergency Assistance (EA) Shelter System.
- **\$623.6 million** for childcare for low-income families.
- **\$475 million** for Commonwealth Cares for Children (C3) grants.
- **\$40 million** for Child Care Resource, Referral Agencies and Head Start.
- **\$20 million** for childcare and referral agencies.
- **\$7.5 million** for an early education scholarship.

### *Elementary Education*

- **\$805.4 million** for special education circuit breaker.
- Funds the final year for the student opportunity act.
- The budget increases the minimum aid total to **\$160 per pupil** (\$52.2 million).
- **\$62 million** for school transportation reimbursements, including regional districts and costs for transporting nonresident students to approved vocational-technical programs.
- **\$119 million** for Regional School Transportation.
- **\$7.66 billion** for Chapter 70 Education Aid.
- **\$198 million** toward universal school meals, ensuring that no child in the Commonwealth goes hungry in the classroom.
- Fully funds charter school reimbursement at 100 percent.
- **\$10 million** for rural school aid.

### *Higher Education*

- **\$1.69 billion** for public higher education operations (29 institutions, including \$866.5 million for UMass Amherst, a 4 percent increase over this year's allocation).
- **\$176.8 million for Massachusetts State Scholarship Program** to fund MASSGrant and MASSGrant Plus, Gilbert Grants, One Family Scholars



Program and grants for early educator scholarships.

- **\$127 million** for Free Community College (MassEducate and MassReconnect).
- **\$85 million** for financial aid expansion.
- **\$15.2 million** for early college programs.
- **\$4 million** for inclusive concurrent enrollment, also known as Massachusetts Inclusive Postsecondary Education (MAIPSE).
- **\$3.8 million** for the Department of Higher Education.

## Elections

- **\$30.5 million** to fund the Secretary of the Commonwealth's elections division.
- **\$11.4 million** for the central voter registration system.
- **\$6.8 million** to fund early voting.
- **\$2.1 million** for voter information.

## Environment and Natural Resources

- **\$60 million** for the Massachusetts Emergency Food Assistance Program.
- **\$63.4 million** for the Clean Water Trust.
- **\$10 million** for the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center.
- **\$4.3 million** for climate adaptation and resilience initiatives.
- **\$4.6 million** for environmental justice programs.
- **\$153 million** for the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR).
- **\$81 million** for the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).
- **\$71 million** for the Department of Agricultural Resources (MDAR).
- **\$60 million** for the emergency food assistance program (MEFAP), which provides food to food banks to distribute to food pantries.
- **\$20 million** for the Healthy Incentives Program (HIP).

## Judiciary

- **\$52 million to the Massachusetts Legal Assistance Corporation**, the largest legal aid organization in the Commonwealth.
- **\$3 million for Access to Counsel in eviction proceedings.** In 2023, only 4 percent of tenants facing eviction had legal counsel, compared to 90 percent of landlords. According to the Boston Bar Association,



providing legal representation to indigent parties in eviction cases can save the Commonwealth \$63 million annually.

- **\$380 million to the Committee for Public Counsel Services (CPCS)**  
The Commonwealth's public defenders provide constitutionally mandated legal representation to indigent individuals in criminal and certain civil proceedings. It also provides \$246 million to compensate lawyers assigned to criminal and civil cases when caseloads exceed CPCS' bandwidth or when there is a need for expertise in a specialty case. An additional \$25 million will pay for court costs and experts.
- **\$7 million to implement an immigration legal services program.**
- **\$38.5 million for Victim Services.** Specialty Courts provide court-supervised probation and treatment for mental health issues, substance use disorder, homelessness and veteran-specific challenges. This funding ensures the continuation of these courts.
- **\$9 million for the operation of Specialty Courts.**

### Labor and Workforce Development

- **\$17.5 million** for Job Program for At-Risk Youth (YouthWorks), which provides subsidized employment opportunities for low-income and at-risk youth.
- **\$7.9 million** for MassHire Career Centers.
- **\$10 million** for the Workforce Competitiveness Trust Fund, which funds grants to employers to train workers in high-demand industries.
- **\$8.8 million** Career Technical Institutes (CTIs), which provide short-term, hands-on training in high-demand trades such as healthcare, manufacturing and construction. CTIs are often located in vocational high schools and operate during evenings or off-hours to serve adult learners.
- **\$3.3 million** to expand apprenticeships beyond traditional trades.
- **\$2 million** for the Massachusetts Manufacturing Extension Partnership.
- **\$2.5 million** for Re-entry to the Workforce Development Program for individuals returning from incarceration.

### Mental Health Services

- **\$679.7 million** for adult mental health services.
- **\$136.7 million** for child and adolescent mental health services.
- **\$3 million** for the Department of Mental Health's Loan Forgiveness Program.



## Public Health

- **\$22.41 billion** for MassHealth.
- **\$184.1 million** for the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS).
- **\$35 million** for HIV/AIDS treatment and prevention.
- **\$11.1 million** for a gun and violence prevention program.
- **\$10.1 million** for community health centers.
- **\$4 million** for the Affirming Health Care Trust Fund to support gender-affirming services, medical malpractice/liability insurance for providers and research into LGBTQ+ health issues.
- **\$175 million** for health and human service workers.
- **\$131 million** for rate increases for nursing facilities.

## Public Transportation

- **\$35 million** for Regional Transit Authorities.

As the House Chair of the Joint Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery, I also had the opportunity to speak on the floor on behalf of the House's efforts to ensure continued investment in behavioral health. You can watch [here](#).





## LEGISLATION

### Blue Envelope Bill Passes the House



The House unanimously passed a bill I filed to establish a statewide blue envelope system to improve interactions between police and drivers with autism.

### What is it?

This bill addresses the unique circumstances surrounding communication between police officers and people with autism at traffic stops, and is the result of the leadership and tireless collaboration between the autism and law enforcement communities. In 2020, Max Callahan, a student at the Massachusetts Inclusive Postsecondary Education Program, proposed this idea during a legislative visit. Max, who has autism, explained how his desire to drive was overshadowed by his concern that if he were to be pulled over, his reaction to stress could be misinterpreted as dangerous or avoidant, potentially putting him in danger. This is a common fear among people with autism and their family members. The overwhelming sensory experience of a traffic stop – bright lights, loud sirens and busy traffic – can combine to make communication and social interaction particularly challenging for people with autism. Without adequate awareness and understanding, police officers can misinterpret behaviors as evasive or threatening. As a result, these encounters can foster inappropriate use of force, trauma and harm. This is particularly true for neurodiverse people of color. Max presented a simple, common-sense solution to this challenge: the Blue Envelope.

The envelope holds the documentation that a driver may need in a traffic stop such as a driver's license, registration and insurance cards. The exterior of the envelope shows the driver's emergency contact information as well as specific communications instructions to help officers approach interactions with greater understanding. Max brought this idea to the UMass Amherst chief of police, who helped to develop this bill and build a strong coalition around it. Their efforts resulted in rapid and widespread support from advocacy organizations and state law enforcement. In April 2024, the State Police began distributing blue envelopes. **Since then, they have distributed more than 12,000 envelopes, demonstrating the deep interest in this initiative by both the autism community and law enforcement.** Putting it into statute ensures a consistent approach and implementation.





*Standing with my co-filer, Rep. Sean Garballey and advocates for the blue envelope bill after its passage in the Massachusetts House of Representatives.*

In late May, I also joined my colleagues to

1. advance the following legislation to increase access to epi-pens (H.5443).
2. Advance universal newborn screenings for congenital cytomegalovirus (H.5441).
3. Provide family members of law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty with a license plate or emblem (S.2903).
4. Protect the public from drones and robots equipped to harm (J.5444).



**HOUSE PASSES S.2903  
AN ACT HONORING BLUE STAR FAMILIES**

On Wednesday May 20, 2026 the Massachusetts House of Representatives passed S.2903, An Act honoring Blue Star Families

The bill requires the Registrar of Motor Vehicles (RMV) to furnish, without charge, distinctive vehicle registration plate or a distinctive motorcycle emblem to a parent, child, spouse, sibling, or grandchildren of a law enforcement officer who has been killed in the line of duty.

**HOUSE PASSES H.5441  
AN ACT RELATIVE TO NEWBORN SCREENINGS FOR CONGENITAL CYTOMEGALOVIRUS**

On Wednesday May 20, 2026 the Massachusetts House of Representatives passed H.5441, An Act relative to newborn screenings for congenital cytomegalovirus

The bill requires the Department of Public Health to develop regulations for all hospitals and birthing facilities to require congenital cytomegalovirus (cCMV) screening.

The bill also requires the Commissioner of DPH to establish, promote and maintain a public information program regarding cCMV, and make it available to any health care provider, physician assistant, nurse or midwife who renders prenatal or postnatal care or offers fertility counseling or care to a parent or guardian. A hospital, birthing facility or any health care provider, physician assistant, nurse or midwife who renders prenatal or postnatal care must give expectant or new parents or guardians the information provided by DPH.

**HOUSE PASSES H.5443  
AN ACT RELATIVE TO INCREASING ACCESS TO EPINEPHRINE**

On Wednesday May 20, 2026 the Massachusetts House of Representatives passed H.5443, An Act relative to increasing access to epinephrine.

The bill would allow for authorized entities to access and maintain a supply of epinephrine. This change would allow for trained employees to use epinephrine autoinjectors (epi-pens) to administer epinephrine to any individual they believe is experiencing anaphylaxis

**HOUSE PASSES H.5444  
AN ACT RELATIVE TO CIVIL RIGHTS AND TECHNOLOGY**

On Wednesday May 20, 2026 the Massachusetts House of Representatives passed H.5444, An Act relative to civil rights and technology.

The bill makes it unlawful for a person to manufacture, modify, sell, transfer, possess or operate a robotic device equipped or mounted with a weapon. It also makes it unlawful for a person to use a robotic device to threaten to commit a crime, criminally harass a person, or physically restrain or attempt to physically restrain a person. The bill includes exemptions for law enforcement agencies.

**HOUSE PASSES S.2565  
AN ACT FACILITATING BETTER INTERACTIONS BETWEEN POLICE OFFICERS AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES**

On Wednesday May 20, 2026 the Massachusetts House of Representatives passed S.2565, An Act facilitating better interactions between police officers and persons with autism spectrum disorder, more commonly known as the Blue Envelopes Bill.

The bill codifies the Blue Envelope program, which allows drivers with autism spectrum disorder to get blue envelopes from the RMV in which they can keep their license, registration, and insurance. On the outside of the envelope are reminders to law enforcement that autism spectrum disorder may result in different reactions to being pulled over. This bill promotes the safety and autonomy of drivers with autism spectrum disorder

Reminder: I post my roll call votes monthly on my website, [here](#).

### PROTECT Act Update

This legislation would put some guardrails around how the Commonwealth interacts with ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) agents and would protect Massachusetts residents' access to justice and the courts. The Senate passed its version in May, and now the two versions will be reconciled into a unified bill by a Conference Committee. The bill was developed by the Massachusetts Black and Latino Legislative Caucus and passed the House earlier this year.

Last week, Gov. Maura Healey issued statewide guidance for schools, daycare centers, hospitals and places of worship on how to legally bar ICE agents from non-public spaces and protect vulnerable residents from immigration



enforcement. Learn more [here](#). I'm confident that her action will allow the conference committee to come to a quicker resolution.

### Denim Day

My colleagues in the Massachusetts Caucus of Women Legislators observed Denim Day to raise awareness and stand in solidarity with survivors of sexual assault and violence and to speak to the truth that there is never an excuse or invitation to harass, assault, abuse or rape someone. Each year, the Women's Caucus sponsors Denim Day, and I'm proud to join my colleagues in observing it. Learn more about Denim Day [here](#).



*The Massachusetts Women's Legislative Caucus on Denim Day.*

### May was MS Awareness Month

It is estimated that 1 million people are living with multiple sclerosis (MS) in the United States. Although there is no cure, there are treatments to delay or stop progression of this disease and support for people living with it. MS is a chronic, often disabling autoimmune disease of the central nervous system. The experience of living with it can be very individualized. I was proud to lead and



present a resolution from the Massachusetts House signed by 75 legislators to recognize the National Multiple Sclerosis Society's annual State Action Day. The resolution recognizes the organization for its groundbreaking research and its support for treatment, care, wraparound services and resources. The group's efforts have helped promote early detection and care and improved the quality of life for many people living with MS. You can learn more [here](#).



*Presenting a resolution from the Massachusetts House of Representatives to advocates and representatives from the MS Society recognizing MS Awareness Month and Action Day.*

**Action as House Chair of the Joint Committee on Mental Health, Substance Abuse and Recovery**



## **The FY27 Budget and Behavioral Health**

As House chair of the Joint Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery, I spoke on the House floor in support of funding for the Department of Mental Health and the Bureau of Substance Addiction Services during the budget debate. You can watch my speech [here](#).

## **Behavioral Health Workforce**

I was honored to speak at the Health Policy Commission's inaugural event of the Behavioral Health Workforce Center as it released its report on building and strengthening the behavioral health services workforce. The HPC Behavioral Health Workforce Center was formed by the legislature to conduct research and develop policy recommendations to strengthen the workforce capacity in the Commonwealth. Read the report [here](#).

Our efforts to build the behavioral health workforce and pay folks a fair wage contribute to our goal to increase access to care. Providers are the backbone of this system, and without a trained and sufficient workforce, access to care will continue to be spotty to non-existent.

## **Arts for the Common Good**

In mid-April, the UMass Fine Arts Center hosted more than 300 policymakers, health practitioners, artists and researchers from across Massachusetts for Art for the Common Good. It marked the beginning of the Fine Arts Center's expanded focus on arts and wellbeing. I was thrilled to be one of the speakers to open the day's inspiring events and to express my belief in the power of the arts and a shared commitment to support that power for individual and community health, to build connection and community, and to foster well-being.





*Presenting remarks at the "Art for the Common Good" and "Behavioral Health Care Under Pressure" conferences.*

### SUMMER INTERNS

Our summer internship program starts this month. Please welcome Olivia Soolman and Jayda Ma. The internship program is led by my State House team and offers students a great chance to learn about policy and policy-making, to go deep on issues of interest to them, to be exposed to legislative briefings and other State House opportunities, and to create their own research project. As someone who benefitted greatly from internships when I was in college, I believe in their power, and I am committed to offering these opportunities in public service.



**OUR SUMMER 2026 INTERNS**  
IN THE OFFICE OF REP. MINDY DOMB



**Olivia Soolman**  
she/her

*College:*  
UMass Amherst

*Majors:*  
Public Policy and Sustainable Community Development

*Policy interests:*  
Public transportation, climate justice, and community engagement  
Wenham, MA

**OUR SUMMER 2026 INTERNS**  
IN THE OFFICE OF REP. MINDY DOMB



**Jayda Ma**  
she/her

*College:*  
Amherst College

*Majors:*  
Political Science and Mathematics

*Policy Interests:*  
Health care, prison reform, and education  
Houston, TX

## DISTRICT UPDATES

### Food Insecurity Increases – Help Needed

Hunger and food insecurity rose to 40 percent in 2025, according to The Greater Boston Food Bank and Mass General Brigham’s food access report, which you can read [here](#). More alarming is that [food insecurity in our country has surged](#) to levels we have not seen since the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic. A [report](#) by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York found that 10 percent of surveyed families nationwide reported missing meals due to a lack of food, with nearly 16 percent relying on charitable food donations.

What does that mean? It means it’s a good time to donate money or food to our local food distribution programs to make sure they have sufficient quantities to meet the growing demand. In addition to the [Food Bank of Western Massachusetts](#), [here](#) is a list of organizations in our district that distribute food and will gratefully accept donations.

If you’re thinking you’d like to incorporate food donations into your schedule, check out the Amherst Survival Center’s Neighborhood Food Project [here](#), where every other month, residents across the area pick up donations from their neighbors and deliver the donations to the Center.





*Group photo with staff and volunteers from the Amherst Survival Center and my team after our recent community office hours. Each month we schedule community office hours with the Amherst Survival Center being one of our consistent locations.*

### **Celebrating the Return of Valley Bike Share**

I joined Mass Department of Transportation (Mass DOT) Undersecretary of Transportation Policy Samantha Silverberg, other state officials and elected officials to celebrate the \$1.5 million MassDOT grant supporting Valley Bike Share. The grant will help sustain and expand the regional electric bikeshare system, which serves 10 communities, including Amherst and the UMass Amherst campus. The funding, awarded through the Commonwealth's Microtransit and Last Mile Transit Grant program, will pay for fleet upgrades, system expansion and continued operations. This award recognizes the important role bikeshare plays as both a first- and last-mile connection to jobs, housing and transit hubs.





*Celebrating the return of the Valley Bike Share and state support for its operations.*

### **Amherst Veteran Recognized at Military Appreciation Day**

This month's Military Appreciation Day, hosted by the Office of Veteran Affairs, was a chance to recognize community heroes. I had the privilege of nominating Amherst resident **Eugene (Gene) Herman** to be honored for his military service and his continued contributions to the Amherst community. Gene is a Vietnam War veteran who served in the Army from 1967 to 1970. He has spent years creating opportunities for veterans to gather in Amherst as the Town of Amherst CRESS Veteran's Outreach Volunteer, where his steadfast dedication to community building is reflected in the biweekly Veterans Community Breakfasts. The breakfasts feature speakers and encourage conversations and reflection on military service from veterans, spouses, caregivers and community members. These opportunities for food and friendship are a consistent source of camaraderie and reduce isolation for the veterans' community. Thank you to Gene and to all of the veterans, service members, and military family members for your service to our country and for your continued contributions to communities across Massachusetts.







*Gene Herman and Rep. Domb at a recent veterans breakfast in Amherst*

### **Expressing Gratitude to Steve Connor for His Service**

Last month I had a chance to express great gratitude to Steve Connor, the veterans service agent for Hampshire County, as he began his retirement. I was delighted to give Steve a citation for his service to the veterans in Amherst and Granby.





*Steve Connor is a real champ and has been a wonderful and effective advocate for our communities' veterans and their families.*



### **Appreciating Granby's Glenn Sexton**

It was my honor to join the Granby delegation to honor and recognize the service of Granby Select Board member Glenn Sexton with citations from the Massachusetts House and Senate. Glenn has served nine years on the Select Board with knowledge, commitment and patience.



*I was delighted to recognize Glenn Sexton's civic contributions, along with Jennifer Pickering from Senator Oliveira's office, at Glenn's last Select Board meeting.*

### **Youth Listening Session at Amherst Regional High School**

One of the best parts of being a Representative is getting to speak with and hear from young people about their concerns and their solutions. I am especially grateful to Feminist Generation Amherst for partnering with my office to organize and create an interactive listening session in Amherst Regional High School last month. I'm so proud to represent these young people, who described their priorities (from addressing the climate emergency and protecting bodily autonomy to fixing the potholes in Amherst!) and share their desire to help make positive change. Thank you to Sen. Jo Comerford's office for also attending, and a big shout out to those students who participated.





### Morning Movement and Mentoring Program Visits the State House

I hosted the Morning Movement & Mentoring Program (MMMP) from Amherst Regional Public Schools at the State House last month. Thank you to the chaperones, Amherst Recreation staff, Amherst CRESS and school officials who made the trip possible so that more than 60 students could see state government in action and learn how they can affect what we do. Making sure students feel comfortable in the State House and helping them understand the potential impact of *their* civic action is critically important to me. It is a joy to be able to host this group every year and to foster these young folks' interest in civic engagement.





The participants in Amherst's Morning Movement and Mentoring Program with their chaperones on the Grand Staircase in the State House on their recent visit.

### Since I last wrote, I also ...

- Scheduled and attended a meeting with the Massachusetts Department of Transportation on how to improve safety at 5 Corners in Granby
- Attended the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary gala for Amherst Media
- Toured the construction of the new Jones Library and witnessed the significant historic preservation efforts that are part of this building project
- Attended Amherst's Memorial Day events
- Toured the Future of Food initiative at UMass Amherst
- Attended a naturalization ceremony on the UMass Amherst campus
- Spoke at Amherst's Energy and Climate Action Committee
- Received the Distinguished Service Award from the UMass Amherst Retired Faculty Association



- Attended a reading of Reading Together Frederick Douglas at the Hampshire County House of Corrections
- Participated in an awareness effort that dressed the duckling sculpture in the Boston Common for children's mental health week
- Attended a special concert at the Emily Dickinson Museum in honor of Portuguese Language Day
- Spoke at the Massachusetts Organization for Addiction Recovery (MOAR) Western MA Policy Forum

### **JUNE OFFICE HOURS**

Please feel free to drop in during office hours. However, if you have a time sensitive matter, please don't wait for office hours. [Reach out to my office for assistance.](#)



## **IN-PERSON OFFICE HOURS JUNE 2026**

with

**State Representative  
Mindy Domb**

**TUESDAY, JUNE 23, 12:30-1:30 PM**  
AMHERST SURVIVAL CENTER  
138 SUNDERLAND ROAD

**TUESDAY, JUNE 23, 4:00-5:00 PM**  
GRANBY FREE LIBRARY  
297 EAST STATE ST

**FRIDAY, JUNE 26, 4:00-5:00 PM**  
AMHERST TOWN HALL  
1<sup>ST</sup> FLOOR MEETING ROOM

For more information, call 413-335-1362  
or email [Lily.Stowe-Alekman@mahouse.gov](mailto:Lily.Stowe-Alekman@mahouse.gov)

I hope our paths cross this summer. But please know [you can always reach out](#) to let me know your concerns, your questions, your suggestions. To follow me on a more regular basis, follow me on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

[Your feedback on the e-newsletter is so appreciated. Tell me what you think!](#)

Take good care,





Mindy Domb  
Representing the 3rd Hampshire District  
in the Massachusetts House of Representatives

## **P.S. UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS IN JUNE**

Information on opportunities to support our towns' and their networks of nonprofit organizations and human services. Where possible, I include local events on this [Facebook page](#) in addition to below:

- June 6: [Mini-Golf Fundraiser for Amherst Education Foundation](#)
- June 7-13: [Amherst Restaurant Week](#)
- June 9: 7 p.m. [Amherst League of Women Voters conversation, "Fostering Access for Immigrants in Challenging Times"](#)
- June 12, [Light Up The Night, fundraiser for Family Outreach of Amherst](#)
- June 12-14, [Granby Charter Days](#)
- June 13, 8:30 to 11 a.m., pancake breakfast for Puffer's Pond at Mill River Recreation Area
- June 14: [Juneteenth Legacy Celebration in Amherst, Ancestral Bridges](#)
- June 18: [Battle of the Botanicals](#) for the Hitchcock Center
- June 19: [Juneteenth Celebration, Amherst](#)
- June 28: [Amherst Pride](#) parade and rally

