

**12<sup>th</sup> Suffolk District Representative *Dorchester Reporter* Questionnaire:  
Rep. Dan Cullinane**

**1. What is your name, age, place of birth, and present address?**

My name is Dan Cullinane. I am 31 years old. At 4 months old, I became the luckiest kid in the world when I was adopted into a loving Dorchester family and I have been a proud lifelong Dorchester resident ever since. My wife, Emily Torres-Cullinane, with whom I just celebrated our 5 year wedding anniversary, were so proud to buy our first home last year in Dorchester Jo Anne Terrace.

**2. Please describe your professional background. Feel free to note any local organizations with which you have been involved.**

To know me, is to know my passion for my community. As an adopted, only-child, growing up in Dorchester, I developed a strong passion for wanting make a positive impact and give back in the neighborhood that I felt, and still feel, gave me everything. Being from Dorchester shaped who I am and, along with my parents, our community gave me a life of opportunity far too few children are given. My strong loyalty to Dorchester, and my passion for public service, from a very young age, led me to pursue both volunteer and career choices which closely tied in with my desire to make a difference in the lives of others, especially those in need.

From 2013 to present, I have had the incredible honor of serving as the State Representative of the 12th Suffolk District working each day on behalf of the hardworking residents of Dorchester, Mattapan, Hyde Park and Milton as their voice in the State House. I am grateful to the people of the 12th Suffolk District for the trust and confidence they have placed in by electing, and then re-electing me, to represent our community.

This will be my 5th election in less than 3 years. In the 2013 three-way Special Democratic Primary election I was honored to be elected with 63% of the vote. In the 2013 three-way General Election I was grateful to be elected with 75% of the vote and to be sworn in as a Massachusetts State Representative for the first time. The very next year, in 2014, I was honored to be re-elected to my first full-term as State Representative in a four-way Democratic Primary, during an open gubernatorial election, with 67% of the vote. I firmly believe the strong, and growing support, our campaign has received each year is a testament to the strong relationships we have worked hard to build in the community based on our accessibility, consistent presence, and delivering results for each community within the 12th Suffolk District.

Prior to making the decision to run my for the open 12th Suffolk State Representative seat, here is a snapshot of my diverse professional background, all of which has helped me in being an effective voice and advocate for the 12th Suffolk District:

**Committee to Elect Linda Dorcena Forry, *Field Director* (2013)**

- While in the process of starting a company with a former co-worker of mine, State Senator Jack Hart announced he was resigning from the Massachusetts State Senate sending shockwaves through the local political world and setting forth a scramble of who would run for his now vacant Senate seat. With so much happening in local politics and so much at stake in the community, I put the business on hold to step up and get involved.
- I was hired by the State Representative Linda Dorcena Forry, a friend and political mentor, to serve as her campaign's field director tasked primarily with organizing and deploying all of the campaign's volunteers to execute the campaign's strategic objectives. Working then with now Senator Forry, I was given an opportunity to learn directly from her as well as to meet, to learn from and to build quality working relationships and many friendships with individuals and organizations throughout the 12th Suffolk District and throughout the 1st Suffolk Senate District.
- This was a hard-fought and very close election. In the end, I was thrilled to be part of the team which elected the first Haitian-American State Senator in Massachusetts history and the first person of color to ever represent the 1st Suffolk Massachusetts State Senate seat. Additionally this marked the first time in 40+ years the 1st Suffolk Senate seat would be held by someone other than a former State Representative from South Boston. This was an historic election, that brought the Senate seat to Dorchester and I was proud to play a significant role in its outcome.

**Action for Boston Community Development, Inc. (ABCD), *SummerWorks Fundraising Manager* (2012)**

- ABCD is Boston's oldest and largest anti-poverty agency. I served as fundraising manager on a one year contract for its SummerWorks program tasked with raising private sector money to fund summer employment opportunities for Boston teens from low-income homes, including many teens from Dorchester, Mattapan and Hyde Park.
- This was an incredible opportunity to build quality relationships across different employment sectors and to gain specific experiences and first hand knowledge of how Boston's non-profit community intersects and collaborates with both city and state government and with the private sector to raise funds to help those most in need.

**Massachusetts Attorney General's Office, Fair Labor Division, *Investigator* (2010-2011)**

- I served as a Fair Labor Investigator specializing in public / tax-payer funded construction projects. My job was to conduct complex criminal and civil investigations into allegations of companies misclassifying workers and not paying workers correctly.
- Often times our investigations would necessitate starting surveillance operations in the middle of the night so as to not be detected while setting up to record early morning worker activity, for which they were not being paid, and to build the evidence necessary to prove whether the violating company was intentionally or unintentionally not paying workers correctly and whether the company was intentionally or unintentionally stealing tax dollars.
- I am proud that during my time in the Attorney General's office, my team and I recovered millions of dollars in wages for the workers who had rightfully earned it and in restitution to the Commonwealth.
- My years on the front lines investigating violations of current Massachusetts employment laws and working to protect workers rights has provided me with first hand knowledge of how

companies can take advantage of workers and the state, and what policies need to be enacted in order to protect workers and to protect our tax dollars when it comes to public construction in the Commonwealth.

**Martha Coakley for United States Senate, *Deputy Field Director* (2009-2010)**

- Upon the passing of the late Senator Edward M. Kennedy, I was offered an opportunity to utilize and enhance my campaign skill set and to expand my grass roots organizing experience working with key democratic leaders in Massachusetts as the Deputy Field Director statewide.
- This political campaign was an opportunity to build important relationships with leaders in the Massachusetts Democratic Party, learn valuable skills, and to work hard to forward the democratic principles and issues I believe in.

**Office of Boston City Councillor Maureen E. Feeney, District 3, *Communications Director* (2009)**

- Upon the retirement of her longtime Chief of Staff, I was hired to return to Boston City Hall to serve as Communications Director to Boston City Councillor Maureen Feeney. In this capacity I handled a wide variety of key functions from press relations to local development and City Zoning Board of Appeals to constituent services. Additionally I represented the Councillor at numerous community meetings across the district.
- This opportunity gave me the chance to again work with the community and dig back into local neighborhood issues.

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**Office of State Representative Martin J. Walsh, 13th Suffolk District, *Director of Constituent Services* (2007-2008)**

- Served as the primary point of connect for constituent services for Representative Walsh while also working on state policy, state budget, and legislative matters for the office. Additionally I

represented Rep. Walsh at community meetings throughout the district. Giving me an invaluable experience of learning how to be a successful State Representative from Rep. Walsh and to learn the ins and outs of policy and politicking in the State House. This also afforded the opportunity to take what I learned in City Hall and to pair it with my knowledge and experience in the State House to be an effective advocate for the constituents our office was serving.

- I started working full-time for State Rep. Walsh during my final semester at Providence College requiring that I commute to and from Rhode Island to simultaneously work and finish my undergraduate degree on schedule.
- During my senior year in college, I created an independent study internship for college credit, and completed the internship in the Massachusetts State House office of then 13th Suffolk State Representative, now Mayor of Boston, Marty Walsh. This required me to take the 5:30am commuter rail train from Providence to Boston to put in the required work to then rush back to complete my other studies. Yes, I could have worked in the Rhode Island State House but, to me, regardless of the travel, I wanted to gain state policy experience and do work which would better my home community of Dorchester.
- At the completion of internship, with a semester remaining in college, State Rep. Walsh hired me to work in his office. I bought my first car and began driving back and forth between taking classes at Providence College and working full-time in the Massachusetts State House.

**3. Please describe your community background. Feel free to note any local organizations with which you have been involved.**

In the previous question, I touched upon my deep passion for making a positive impact on my community, to which I owe so much. These values were instilled in me by my parents at a very young age. My father, Bob, a former labor leader and head of his union, and my mother, Elaine, a Boston Public School Secretary, taught me to work hard and to give back.

Here is a brief snapshot of my community background, keeping in mind that virtually all aspects of my professional experience in previous question had me very much entrenched with all happenings in the community and working with all of the local neighborhood associations.

**Action for Boston Community Development, Inc. (ABCD), *Board of Directors (2009-2012)***

- Boston's oldest and largest anti-poverty agency

**Cedar Grove Civic Association, *Vice-President (2010-2013), Executive Board Member (2003-2013)***

- My home community association in Dorchester which recently celebrated its 80th Anniversary
- I first joined the executive board as a freshman in high school. I convinced several of my Dorchester friends to join the executive board with me and get involved.
- I stepped down just prior to being sworn in as a State Representative to avoid the appearance of a conflict of interest and because the Cedar Grove Civic Association bi-laws do not permit elected officials to serve on its executive board.

**Ward 16 Democratic Committee, *Member (2011-present), Associate Member (2007-2011)***

- I am proud to have been a lifelong democrat and proud to be part of my local democratic ward committee for 9 years

**Massachusetts AFL-CIO Futures Committee, *Steering Committee Member (2009-2011)***

- Worked as part of a steering committee to bring the next generation of labor leaders together to discuss and shape organized labor's future and to empower its leaders of tomorrow

**4. What is your party affiliation and how would you characterize your political ideology?**

I am a proud lifelong member of the Democratic Party. In the legislature, I am a member of the Progressive Caucus. But while I consider myself to be a progressive, I am most interested in being productive.

Regardless of ideology or party, I reject the politics of obstructionism and people talking past one another in an effort to simply score political points. That serves no one. On many issues, people and coalitions (left, right, and center) who may passionately disagree on numerous other policy matters may in fact share common ground and a similar goal on an important issue. I believe that if you are serious about solving an issue, and serious about governing, you always need to leave the door open to possibilities of working with whomever to accomplish something that will make a positive difference for the constituents you were elected to represent.

I got involved in politics and public service because my parents and community taught me to care. I ran for office, and I am running for re-election again, not for me, but because I believe I have something of value to contribute and because I am fully committed to doing the real work of government - both in the community and in the State House. Learning the hard issues, tackling the topics that matter most for our state's future. Being present and listening to concerns and turning those concerns into action. Getting in the room with decision makers on policy discussions and debates and having substantive contributions to make - not simply doing press conferences and nibbling around the edges for a false sense of personal accomplishment. Unfortunately sometimes the real work of government, the work of really learning an issue inside and out, and building compromise and consensus is not necessarily sexy. But at the end of the day, I would much rather be the person getting meaningful things accomplished and delivering meaningful results for the 12th Suffolk District - being the person walking the walk - rather than watching on the sidelines just talking the talk.

**5. Please name up to three (and at least one) of your political role models? Please feel free to explain your choices.**

*Deceased*

- Robert F. Kennedy
- Lyndon Johnson (*after becoming President & on domestic policy only*)
- Tip O'Neill

*Local & Living (and I have had the honor of being hired by and working with all three)*

- **Mayor Marty Walsh**

- As a staff member, then Rep. Walsh, taught me an important lesson I will never forget, “Treat everyone you meet with the same amount of importance and respect. And whenever a constituent comes into the State House to meet with you, scheduled or not, on an issue they are having - no matter how busy you may be on legislative work or policy or meetings - drop everything and give that person time you would want to have yourself if you were having a problem. Because no matter what you have going on, to them, at that moment their issue is the most important thing in the world to them and they deserve to be heard.”

- **City Councillor Maureen Feeney**

- I held my first sign for her campaign at 8 years old. Through her example I learned from a young age the positive impact a local elected official can have on a community. Through working in her office, I witnessed an incredible and indefatigable work ethic. Her dedication to calling everyone back personally and her taking on every issue herself and the pace she pushed was a sight to see. It was incredible to see an elected official work as hard as she did, day in and day, at all hours, and still regardless of the the business inside City Hall, she would personally attend numerous community meetings every night and engage and participate at each one. She did this for 20 years as Councillor and before that as her predecessor Jim Byrne’s aide. Keeping up that, commitment on the issues, that pace, that engagement, and that passion was special. As an aide and intern in her office I remember numerous times where I would say, “don’t worry about it, I will cover that meeting tonight.” She would say “Ok. Thank you. I appreciate that.” Then during the meeting that night she would show up at the meeting because to her it was important that she personally be there to listen to the community and to participate. Elected officials all have different styles, Councillor Feeney showed me what it means to do the real work everyday and how important it is to show up personally.

**State Senator Linda Dorcena Forry**

- When I worked as Field Director on her 2013 State Senate election, it was the first time I had the opportunity to closely work with Senator Forry. And since I have had the opportunity to follow in her footsteps as State Representative and to work with her as we represent many of the same communities. Senator Forry’s energy is contagious and she can work a room, and everyone in it, unlike anyone I have ever seen. Additionally her mastery of the inside politics of the State House and how well respected she is in the building, by everyone, is beyond impressive. She is a new school politician, with as much toughness and political skill as any old school politician ever had. She is a force in the State House and it something that I admire greatly and have learned from a lot.

**6. & 7. What would you like to build upon from your earlier term? What do you want to highlight?**

For the past two and a half years, I have had the incredible honor of serving as the State Representative of the 12th Suffolk District working each day on behalf of the hardworking residents of Dorchester, Mattapan, Hyde Park and Milton as their voice in the State House. I am grateful to the people of the 12th Suffolk District for the trust and confidence they have placed in by electing, and then re-electing me, to represent our community.

I am ready and energized to bring our proven record out to the doors on this campaign and to get back to work. From day one, we hit the ground running, committed to delivering real results for the community. I am proud to say we have the tangible accomplishments to back up our work. I say “we” because I have had the good fortune to still be working with the same legislative aide, Leon David, I hired when I was sworn in three years ago. We are a team. We have fostered an open, welcoming and bi-lingual office with Leon speaking fluent Haitian Creole. This was incredibly important to me to ensure every community regardless of language had full access to my office and full access to their state government. We delivered consistent personal accessibility to each community in the 12th Suffolk District with my “Dan in the District” coffee hours every Friday and by putting my personal cell phone number everywhere - on my business cards, on my office voicemail, on my office email away message, on my re-election campaign material. I made sure that everyone that lives and works in the 12th Suffolk District knew that they could and knew how to reach me directly. Why? Because I ran for this job and the way I approach the work is that everyone should be able to directly reach me if they need to. I look forward to keep this level of accessibility and presence in the community going strong.

With one of the most active districts in the Commonwealth, I look forward to building upon the already strong and successful collaborations we have formed with key community organizations and stakeholders across the district that do such amazing work. Organizations like Mattapan Food and Fitness, Greater Ashmont Main Streets, the Mattapan Community Health Center, Lower Mills Merchants Association, our main streets districts, and each individual community association which provides a forum for important community conversation.

I am incredibly proud of the big votes we have taken on Beacon Hill on important issues, like equal pay legislation, raising the minimum wage, comprehensive gun safety reform, the first public records transparency law update in 40 years, opioid legislation which took on the insurance industry to mandate coverage and to outlaw fentanyl trafficking, and many more. But most of the big issues get great coverage in the paper. What I want to talk about are the things, we have done that we haven't talk about much but are a big deal in the community.

In a relatively, short window of time - 2.5 years - my office through collaborating with my colleagues in the legislature in particular with our local delegation has delivered meaningful and tangible results for the community. We have delivered millions in state funds back to the district while also taking on an active role standing up for important policy issues at the State House. Here are a handful of real, concrete examples:

### **Youth Jobs**

Very early on, in my first year in office, there was not going to be a youth jobs fair hosted in Mattapan to discuss summer employment for teens. To me, that was not acceptable. So what did I do? I organized one. We collaborated with numerous non-profits, Mattapan ABCD, Mattapan

United, and my fellow Mattapan colleagues in government. Basically anyone who had youth jobs locally to give was there. We got the word through a host of networks and in the pouring rain, more than 150 -200 youth came out. The result was that hundreds of Mattapan and Dorchester young people who did not otherwise have summer employment got a summer job. We did a second summer job fair the following year that was just as successful. Through these job fairs my state house office has brought in over 30 interns who work on issues in the community and then present their findings to me at the State House. So beyond simple summer employment, I am working hard to ensure that my office opens the doors of the State House to as many young people from our neighborhood as possible.

### **Mental Health Services**

My first meeting as State Representative, was with the Executive Director of Mattapan Community Health Center, Azzie Young, Wheelock College's, Julie Buldoc and Marta Rosa, who work very closely as part of the Mattahunt/Wheelock Partnership with the Mattahunt Elementary School and Community Center. They brought to my attention that there had never been any mental health services available in Mattapan. They had a vision of a first of its kind collaboration among the Mattapan Community Health Center, Mattahunt School and Wheelock's School of Social Work to create a model for same day mental health consultation and follow up services at the health center. So I said I would get to work.

In the first budget, I participated in as Rep. myself and Senator Forry jointly secured \$50,000 in seed funding in the state budget for what has been called the Mattapan Integrative Care Partnership. Mattapan Community Health Center has done incredible work leveraging the credibility of being the state budget to generate sizable grants and expand outreach. According to Dr. Cancino, in its first year of operation these services have served over 2,000 individuals.

When a patient during a routine medical exam displays a need or a want to meet with a mental health counselor, their primary care doctor need only call across the hall and they are seen by a liaison and then by a professional. This is a full integrative care model being done in the same community health center where people have the physical health care appointments. What is special about that is that it eliminates the stigma and the need for anyone who perhaps isn't yet ready to discuss the fact they are getting a little mental health care from needing to say anything other than "I was at the health center."

The Health Center in part from the success of this program has since opened a behavioral health wing to expand its services. Last year, I was humbled to be awarded the Mattapan Health Center's highest honor, and the first elected official to receive the "Dr. T Leon Nicks Award for Exemplary Service."

### **Haitian Housing Clinic**

For two years, my office organized and hosted along with Senator Forry, the Boston Public Health Commission and the Mattapan elected officials delegation a Haitian Housing along with numerous Haitian non-profits and adult day health centers. By working with the Mayor and the City for the first time ever we were able to have the Boston Housing Authority's application form and its informational video translated into Haitian Creole thus opening up more access to



the process of pursuing and securing housing for the Haitian community. This was a first and a big deal that we are very proud of.

### **Mattapan Square Beautification**

One of the most frustrating things for me on the campaign trail was when I would be standing in Mattapan Square looking into Milton. Now I love my Milton constituents as well but when you look into Milton from Mattapan down Blue Hill Ave you see a median of landscaped grass and trees. When you turn around and look down Blue Hill Ave into Mattapan Square there is nothing but a desolate empty sidewalk median going as far as the eye can see.

On the first bill, I had a chance to file an amendment into was the Transportation Bond Bill in October of 2013, in this bill I secured \$500,000 for the specific purpose of beautifying and installing some greenery down the median of Blue Hill Ave in Mattapan Square. With a bond bill, its one thing to get the money in the bill, its another battle to get the administration to actually release the funds. So literally for two months as his term was expiring I called Governor Patrick's office every day to advocate passionately that the funds be released, and one of his final days in office and perhaps his second to last day in office he released the funds.

We had worked with the City behind the scenes to ensure they would be ready to receive the state funds to carry out the project, this way removing from the equation the possibility of an incoming republican governor cutting the release of the funds or not doing the project.

As a result on the last week of Governor Patrick's term the City of Boston received a \$500,000 check to beautify Mattapan Square. Today, a public process has been done, a design has been finalized, a contractor has been selected and this very month the project to beautify Mattapan Square will begin.

### **Ventura Park**

Dorchester's Ventura Park was one of the top five oldest and outdated playgrounds in the state. In our first budget as State Senator and State Representative respectively, Senator Forry and I collaborated and secured \$250,000 to build the first new children's playground at Dorchester's Ventura Park in 23 years.

So the question was "what do I want to build on?" I want to continue delivering real tangible results for the people of Dorchester, Mattapan, Hyde Park and Milton.

### **8. Boston is in the midst of a development boom. How do you plan to advocate on behalf of the neighborhood in ensuring responsible development projects are considered and constructed?**

As an elected official who was appointed to serve on Mayor Marty Walsh's Housing Task Force, I know how real the need is for housing stock of various kinds in the City of Boston, especially low and middle income. With a low supply, and city living demand high, rents are rising rapidly and we need more housing units that people of different incomes can afford to calm the market. As a State Representative serving as a member of the Joint Committee on Elder Services,

representing majority urban district, I know what the price of housing is doing to our seniors. As a young person, I have seen what the increased in housing prices has done to friends who have had to move out of the community they grew up in because of the prices being unaffordable. This is an extremely difficult problem to confront at the real time speed at which it is happening and anyone peddling a simple, one sized fits all solution, is simply not being truthful.

As a resident of Dorchester and as a State Representative representing Dorchester, Mattapan, Hyde Park, and Milton this is absolutely one of the most difficult and important local issues with which we as elected officials are being faced. As policy person, the reality of the housing supply issue is not limited to the City, it may seem so at the moment but the reality is this is state, regional and national infrastructure issue that needs to be confronted with forward thinking data and population driven solutions to build the supply we need in the future.

What needs to happen and, largely is happening, in the State House and in city and town halls across Massachusetts, is elected and appointed officials are confronting the harsh reality of the data of population trends and certain housing stock shortages and significant rural and suburban infrastructure gaps that exist. What needs to happen in addition to obtaining and absorbing this information is finding the capital to invest in building what the data is telling us will meet the future need. For example, some the data from UMass, showcased in Chairwoman Denise Garlick's report on our committee activity this year on Elder Affairs shows a very sobering reality. *The Massachusetts population in the next five years is expected to rise 4.3%. In the same time period, the population of Massachusetts residents 60 and older will increase by 20%. And by December of this year, there will be more people in Massachusetts over the age of 60 than under the age of 18.* This is important information. Because if cities and towns do not have or are not building senior housing we are going to have a big problem in communities all across the Commonwealth.

I am proud to be in the mix and engaged in these incredibly substantive conversations about the future. But to bring this conversation back locally, the right now, the today, matters a great deal in our community. As an elected official, on the issue of development you need to be hands-on and constantly be active and engaged with the City, community associations, main streets districts, and community stakeholders and be on the ball with regard to what properties have been bought and sold in your community. I am grateful to have had the experience of having to cover the Zoning Board of Appeals for a City Councilor and a State Representative. The knowledge of the zoning laws and how the process works is critical in order to be an effective voice in this process.

Locally, we also need strong, proactive community and stakeholder input in the visioning of the future of what residents want and need for our communities to look like so that when entities pursue development projects the a community, that community has a vision and can work with the City to implement a project, if one is available, that fits that vision. When something does not fit that vision we cannot be afraid to stand up and work to ensure a strong community voice and public input.

### **Mattapan MBTA Lot**

One example of this I am proud to say is the work Senator Forry and I did on the Mattapan MBTA Parking Lot parcel of land in Mattapan Square. The MBTA citing old RFP results stated that there was no interest by developers to bid on the lot. As a result they were going to sell the parcel to a Charter School for a small amount without a public process because that type of sale did not technically meet the regulated need for a community meeting.

Senator Forry and I rolled up our sleeves and told the MBTA that this was unacceptable. That if they were saying there was no interest we did not believe them and that the community needed to be involved and have a voice in this process because this lot was truly one of the last large parcels of land that could be developed in Mattapan.

I will give you the short version of the story because the Dorchester Reporter has done a great job covering this issue over the last two plus years so the full version is documented for you to read should you be inclined.

This was a two year process. Senator Forry and I got the MBTA to reissue the RFP (request for proposal) but prior to doing so we had the MBTA conduct a series of community meetings for input on what the community would like to see built on the property and what needs that the community felt were not being met that could perhaps be included in this project. The first round of the community process needed to happen by law because legally once the new RFP was issued the MBTA is required to accept the highest responsible bidder. So by having MBTA as well as potential developers listen to the community input on the front end, their proposals would in large part reflect what the community wanted. The RFP was issued and two developers bid on the project. Just recently the bid was awarded and two public meetings have happened with the developer having a vision to create a true mixed income community on the parking lot site with first floor commercial/retail space.

This was a specific and significant instance where we as elected leaders walked the walk, preventing a backroom deal, and stood up for the community to have a voice in what the future of our community is going to look like and of ultimately a project being selected that fits that vision.

### **9. What would be your top priority if elected?**

- Continuing my advocacy on keeping and improving the Mattapan High Speed Trolley Line which reliably serves the vast majority of the 12th Suffolk District, Mattapan, Milton, and Dorchester (I am proud to be leading the charge on this important community issue and happy that recently we successfully got \$3.5 million invested for next year and an additional \$5 million in the MBTA Capital Improvement Plan. But we need to keep the pressure up showing the importance of this transit corridor.)
- Working with all stakeholders and the community to ensure the successful development of the Mattapan MBTA Parking Lot Property and the Cote Ford Property

- Working with MassDOT to complete the \$3.5 million improvement to reconfigure and make safe the dangerous intersection of Gallivan Boulevard and Morton Street with a dedicated left hand turn on to West Selden Street.
- Working to expand education, training, and job opportunities in the district
- Working to increase the minimum wage further and to improve employment standards, in various service employee work places
- Working to increase pre-k education funding as we move toward a goal of universal pre-k for all families
- Continuing to push legislation in collaboration with 1199SEIU to raise the wages, career opportunities and employment standards in the home health care and PCA workforce while increasing transparency for consumers.
- Continuing to work in my capacity on the Elder Affairs Committee to work on the issues affecting seniors, specifically those who want to be able to stay in their homes as long as possible (which saves the state millions) and those seniors who are in the grey area of just barely missing the threshold for government assistance and as a result are, by every measurable standard, struggling yet there is no way to help if they are above that line. Too often seniors will be forced to sell practical assets like a car they need in order to drop below the line to get the much needed assistance.

**10. What in your experience to date will most help you to be an effective State Representative?**

My experience for the last two and a half years being an effective State Representative with a proven record of delivering real results for our community. Additionally the prior 15 years of consistent, dedicated community involvement combined with the more than a decade of professional experience within city and state government working to improve the community, stand up for workers and being a voice for those in need prior to pursuing elected office.

**11. Endorsements**

Mayor Marty Walsh  
 State Senator Linda Dorcena Forry  
 Suffolk County Sheriff Steve Tompkins  
 Boston City Councilor Ayanna Pressley  
 Boston City Councilor Andrea Campbell  
 Boston City Councilor Tim McCarthy  
 Massachusetts AFL-CIO  
 1199 SEIU  
 The SEIU State Council  
 Massachusetts Teachers Association

Boston Teachers Union  
American Federation of Teachers MA  
Massachusetts Nurses Association  
Mass Alliance  
The Environmental League of Massachusetts  
Planned Parenthood