

and expand the adoption of individual and organizational behaviors that will reduce the risk of COVID-19 spread and resurgence.

Generating and sustaining sufficient tax revenue to support public priorities, now and for the future, will be impossible without the presence of the robust employment, taxable income, and wealth created by private sector economic activity and growth. More than ever, “barriers to exit” for many employers and skilled workers have been radically lowered, enabling them to relocate from high-cost or less-welcoming environments. For example, the exodus of residents from New York City has been prominently reported on in recent weeks. States, cities, and regions that “get it right” on COVID-19 response and recovery will gain the advantage in the intensifying global competition for economic investment and job growth in the long term.

Private sector economic leaders will judge budget “solutions” and other policy choices made by Massachusetts policymakers against a fundamental test: Will a proposed policy support or stifle sustained economic recovery and growth for the Commonwealth?

Temporary revenue raising options may be necessary and could attract significant support from business leaders—including the High Tech Council—provided they are coupled with a combination of prudent and forward-looking approaches that optimize “rainy day fund” resources, budget reductions, public procurement reforms, state borrowing and federal aid. Conversely, the Council will continue to advocate vigorously against policy approaches that would adopt the “and this tax too” approach sought by some advocates advancing policies that significantly threaten Massachusetts’ economic competitiveness.

In other states, elected leaders from across the political spectrum are turning away from anti-competitive tax policies, in recognition of their damaging impacts. A similar commitment from Massachusetts leaders now would send an important signal to economic decision makers and business leaders in the Commonwealth and beyond. In particular, investors and job-creators are looking for commitments that Massachusetts’ recovery strategy will be built on the competitive benefits and fairness of the Commonwealth’s highly-progressive, uniform income tax rate, which small and large employers support and taxpayers have voted overwhelmingly to preserve 5 times in the past 60 years,

The Council is committed to partnering with our members and state leaders to use all available and necessary policy making options—including ballot question proposals in 2022—to advance holistic state tax and fiscal policy approaches that address the need to meet urgent fiscal demands while carefully avoiding policies that have been proven to drive investment, employment opportunities, income, wealth, and economic activity to competing states and locations over the long term.

Working together, we can and will secure Massachusetts’ future as competitive and welcoming environment for employment, investment and economic opportunity.

Christopher Anderson, President
Massachusetts High Technology Council, Inc.

OUR MISSION

The Massachusetts High Technology Council is an organization of CEOs and senior executives representing technology companies, professional services firms, and academic and research institutions dedicated to creating and sustaining conditions that support investment and job growth in Massachusetts. Our members are growth-oriented, knowledge-intensive employers and institutions that develop, deliver and depend on technology products, services and innovations to advance their organizational objectives.

Our mission is to help make Massachusetts the world’s most attractive place in which to live and work, and in which to create, operate, and grow high technology businesses.

For more information [visit our website](#).

