



THE HIGH TECH AGENDA

MASSACHUSETTS HIGHTECHNOLOGYCOUNCIL

Dedicated to Growth... Committed to Action

February 28, 2019

Council Introduces MATTERS Fiscal Stability Index

On February 26, the Council introduced its new [MATTERS Fiscal Stability Index](#) which measures states' relative short and long-term fiscal health using metrics related to annual budgeting, debt, pension and unfunded OPEB obligations and Medicaid costs.

Despite a robust private economy with a growth rate of 9th highest in the country, Massachusetts ranks in the bottom 10 in overall fiscal stability at number 44, and places 11th among its 15 [MATTERS Peer States](#).

Data that drives the new index was the topic of discussion at an invitation-only event entitled **State Fiscal Stability: A Looming Crisis and Generational Opportunity** featuring a panel discussion with two of the country's preeminent experts on state fiscal health and policy: Eileen Norcross lead author of the Mercatus Center's Ranking the *States by Fiscal Condition* reports and Robert Zahradnik from the Pew Charitable Trusts, publishers of the state *Fiscal 50*.

The index, which is available for public access and will be refreshed as underlying data sources are updated, underscores the fragile relationship between the strength of the Massachusetts private economy and risks associated with long-term spending commitments made by policymakers.

To preserve and enhance our high quality of life in Massachusetts and expand economic opportunity for all citizens, experts encourage policymakers and civic leaders to take steps to improve the Commonwealth's long-term fiscal health and stability by:

- Focusing, optimizing and measuring the impact of state investments in key public priorities;
- Adopting a data-driven and systematic approach to assessing the Commonwealth's fiscal condition and policies.

MATTERS Fiscal Stability Index in the News

- WBUR Radio: [Council Chair Aron Ain Discusses Fiscal Stability Initiative and Index](#)
- WBZ Radio: [Council President Chris Anderson on Fiscal Stability and Private Sector Growth](#)
- Boston Globe: [Fiscal Health of the Commonwealth Near the Bottom of a New Index](#)
- State House News Service: [Massachusetts No. 44 In New Fiscal Stability Index](#)

Council's 2019 Annual Meeting Set for June 10th

The Council's Annual Meeting is the region's premier forum for leaders from business, government and academia to convene, collaborate, and advance initiatives that drive the collective success of our technology sector and Commonwealth.

This year's luncheon meeting will take place on June 10 at the Seaport Hotel in Boston and will feature a

keynote address by US Representative Joseph P. Kennedy III, the election of the Council's directors and officers, and the presentation of the Council's 2019 Ray Stata Leadership and Innovation Award. Information about additional speakers and registration will follow in mid-March. View video highlights of our 2018 Annual Meeting [here](#).

Council Board Advancing Women in Leadership Initiative

Council directors have developed a program to guide successful efforts in recruiting, retaining, and promoting women into leadership responsibilities across our organizations. Our development team agreed on a process of building a menu of specific practices and/or recommendations in the following categories:

- Data, framing the business case and measuring success
- Best practices in recruiting (hiring), retaining and promoting talent
- Culture and engaging organizational leadership
- Quarterly member-only round table discussions

On March 27th, dozens of Massachusetts' most prominent leaders will come together at the Council's inaugural Women in Leadership forum at the state-of-the-art Boston headquarters of Council member PTC for a candid conversation on creating opportunities for local women in technology.

You are encouraged to send senior representatives from your organization become engaged in this effort. Visit the event page [here](#) to register for this free forum.

MHTC In the News

- CNBC: [Board Member Steve Pagliuca Discusses MHTC Leadership and the Mass. Tech Economy](#)
- State House News Service: [Council on the Refiled Graduated Income Tax Amendment: "Bad Public Policy"](#)

Our Mission

The goal of the Massachusetts High Technology Council 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.

Achieving this goal will:

- expand and improve job opportunities for Massachusetts citizens throughout all sectors;
- increase the productivity and well-being of all Massachusetts businesses and citizens and will expand tax revenues to aid the disadvantaged, protect the environment, rebuild the state's infrastructure, and provide support for educational, medical, and cultural institutions.

For more information on our mission, beliefs and activities, [visit our website](#).

