

MASSACHUSETTS
HIGHTECHNOLOGYCOUNCIL

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MASS. HIGH TECH COUNCIL'S STATEMENT ON GOVERNOR BAKER AND LT. GOVERNOR POLITO'S DECISION NOT TO RUN FOR RE-ELECTION

Baker-Polito Announcement Comes at Crucial Moment in Shaping Massachusetts' Future

Governor Charlie Baker and Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito's announcement today that they will not be running for a third term comes at a crucial juncture for Massachusetts and sets a high bar for the next Administration that will be elected to take office in 2022.

We are grateful to the Baker-Polito Administration for their pragmatism and steady hand in governing. During their time in office, they helped the Commonwealth thrive as an economic powerhouse, attracting business and talent to ensure that our innovation economy continues to be one of the most competitive in the nation.

Governor Baker demonstrated his hands-on approach to public management in numerous critical moments for the Commonwealth. Within months of his inauguration in January 2015, he took on the challenge of fixing our region's transit agency, which was mired in crisis after a historic winter. His Administration established the MBTA's Fiscal Management Control Board and assembled a talented leadership team to guide the agency out of crisis and enact difficult but necessary reforms. Under his watch, the Control Board achieved the MBTA's first balanced budget in a decade and oversaw unprecedented investments in infrastructure repairs and enhancements, tripling the MBTA's annual capital spending from \$600 million to \$1.8 billion over six years. In the years following, Governor Baker left his mark on the MBTA in myriad ways, including getting the Green Line Extension project back on track and overseeing the procurement of new subway cars for the Orange and Red Lines.

The Baker-Polito Administration's imprint is also clear in its efforts to address the region's housing affordability crisis and invest in Massachusetts' economic development, as well as its focus on strong fiscal management. The Administration brought to the Governor's Office the important guiding principle that the fiscal challenges facing the Commonwealth are not born out of any revenue problem. Governor Baker and his team understood that a competitive tax environment is key to the future health of our economy and workforce.

We are especially thankful for Governor Baker's leadership during the COVID-19 pandemic—particularly for his willingness to listen to employers and organizations like ours who provided science-driven guidance on masking, testing, and tracing early on. The Baker Administration took a thoughtful approach to economic re-opening, and we're grateful to have been a resource to his team through our virtual roundtable series on employer strategies for returning to the workplace and restarting the economy.

As we look to the future, protecting the conditions that foster investment and job growth in Massachusetts will be essential. The Baker-Polito Administration will be instrumental in leaving a solid legacy in these areas that the next Administration will be charged with protecting.

About the Massachusetts High Technology Council

The [Massachusetts High Technology Council, Inc.](#) is an organization of CEOs and senior executives representing technology companies, professional services firms, and research institutions who are dedicated to creating and sustaining conditions that support investment, job growth and improved quality of life 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—a definition which covers just about all business enterprises in Massachusetts today.

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.

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