

STEVEN BADDOUR

Dear Friend -

I am writing to inform you that after much thought and careful consideration, I am resigning my seat in the Massachusetts Senate to accept a partnership position at the preeminent law firm, McDermott, Will & Emery.

Undoubtedly, this is one of the more complex and important decisions of my life.

While it is difficult to leave my position as your Senator, a job that I have loved and enjoyed for so many years, my new position will allow me to spend more time with my wife, Ann and daughters, Isabella and Victoria.

My decision to leave the State Senate affords me a rare opportunity to be part of one of the most respected and renowned law firms in the country.

Looking back over the past ten years, I am particularly proud of the contributions I have made in reforming our transportation system, improving public safety, keeping government spending in check, and making state government more transparent and accountable. All of these accomplishments would not have been possible without your encouragement, friendship, and support.

Along with the honor of serving the public, I will miss the daily contact with local officials, community and civic leaders, business owners, and my colleagues in the House and Senate. But most of all, I will miss working with citizens like you who have been my motivation for over ten years.

The privilege of representing you in the Senate has been a remarkable and challenging experience—one that I will always cherish.

As a result of your unwavering trust, confidence, and generous support, I remain humbled and eternally grateful. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steven A. Baddour". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Steven" and last name "Baddour" being the most prominent parts.

Steve Baddour



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

MASSACHUSETTS SENATE

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SENATOR STEVEN A. BADDOUR

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VICE-CHAIRMAN
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Biography

Senator Steven A. Baddour has quickly become one of the most respected and effective members of the Massachusetts State Senate. Respected by members of both parties, Baddour has fought to strengthen laws that protect children, the elderly, and disabled; has been a thoughtful voice on transportation and budgetary policy; and has been a champion of fiscal responsibility and government transparency. Baddour has a socially progressive and fiscally conservative voting record and is consistently one of the highest rated members of the legislature by the Commonwealth's business community.

- A life-long resident of Methuen, Baddour attended Methuen Public Schools, the University of Massachusetts – Dartmouth, and Massachusetts School of Law at Andover.
- Baddour began his career in public service as a Legislative Aide in the State House, District Outreach Director for a Member of Congress, and an Assistant Attorney General in the Trial Division of the Government Bureau.
- Elected to the Senate in a hotly-contested special election in January 2002, Baddour has been a strong advocate for the people of his district and the Commonwealth.
- Baddour served for 9 years as Senate Chairman of the Joint Committee on Transportation, Vice-Chairman of the Joint Committee on the Judiciary, and most recently as Vice-Chairman of the Senate Committee on Ways & Means.
- Baddour has been a progressive and fiscally prudent legislator, with a reputation for working across the aisle to reform government, improve public safety, and increase transparency, focusing his efforts on:

TRANSPORTATION REFORM

- Abolished the Mass. Turnpike Authority.
- Eliminated loopholes that allowed pension and health care abuses at the MBTA, including “23 years and out” provisions and 100% subsidized retiree health insurance.
- Streamlined the development of construction projects to deliver projects faster and more efficiently, with more project oversight.
- Required the new Department of Transportation to institute a performance measurement system to ensure that our transportation dollars are spent wisely and effectively.

- **Police Details:** Lead the effort to reform the state's costly police detail policy – striking a fair balance between public safety and transportation spending.
- **RMV Fees:** Fought efforts to charge \$5 for in-person visits to the RMV.
- **Opposed tolls on I-93:** Petitioned the Massachusetts Department of Transportation to oppose New Hampshire's plans to build new toll plazas on Interstate 93.
- **Lead effort to raise level of Chapter 90 spending,** which allows local cities and towns to undertake transportation projects on non-state, local roads. Awarded the Massachusetts Municipal Association's Legislator of the Year award for this success.
- **Ensured passage of the state's new *Accelerated Bridge Program*,** which would fast track the repair and reconstruction of the state's most structurally deficient bridges, reducing the number by 15% over the next 8 years as well as saving \$1.5b in deferred maintenance costs and improving public safety.
- **Held oversight hearings on the Merrimack Valley Regional Transit Authority (MVRTA)** to publicly address concerns about service quality for elderly and disabled riders.
- **Transit Oriented Development:** Included and funded a new Transit Oriented Development program in the Transportation Bond Bill, promoting housing developments near existing public transportation sites.
- **Big Dig Tunnel Leaks:** Chaired a critical oversight hearing on Big Dig leaks, during which culpability for leaks by Betchel/Parsons Binkerhoff was detailed and world-respected tunnel experts testified about “what went wrong.”
- **Statute of Limitations Change for Big Dig Prosecutions:** Authored successful legislation to extend the statute of limitations on claims arising from Big Dig contracts, allowing the state to pursue those who tried to hide behind time limitations.

TOUGH ON CRIME

- ***Melanie's Law:*** Established the nation's harshest penalties for repeat drunk drivers.
- ***Jessica's Law:*** Gives prosecutors enhanced tools to hold sex offenders accountable for their horrific actions by keeping them behind bars longer.
- **Sexually Dangerous Persons:** Protect victims by empowering prosecutors with a greater voice.
- ***Economic Crime:*** Co-sponsored a bill with the Attorney General that will help crack down on human trafficking, money laundering, and other serious crimes.
- **Domestic Abuser Sentence Increases:** Doubled penalties for serial batterers and enabled prosecutors to send perpetrators to state prison and not simply a house of correction.

PROTECTING CHILDREN

- ***Child Services Reform:*** A law that protects abused and neglected children by requiring a comprehensive review and reform of current child welfare laws and resulted in the restructuring of the state's child service agencies.
- ***Booster Seats:*** New law that requires the use of booster seats for children up to age 7 or 4'9" in height, whichever comes first. The law is based on crash statistics showing that children in booster seats are 58% less likely to be killed in a car crash than those wearing seat belts.
- ***Junior Operator law:*** Lead the effort to make it tougher for teenagers to earn their licenses by implementing better education and harsher penalties for those who speed or commit or violations.

- *Bullying Bill*: Provides a framework for schools to adequately address the damaging impacts of bullying in all its forms, including cyber-bullying, by equipping teachers, students and parents with more information and education on bullying and outlined steps on how to handle it provides a community solution to a community problem.
- *Missing Children*: Sponsored a bill that would establish a missing children clearing house, or centrally coordinated repository for information on missing children. This would prevent information on missing children cases from getting lost between jurisdictional systems, and streamline the process of helping them return home safely.
- *GPS Tracking Devices for Sex Offenders*: Supported legislation that would require level 3 sex offenders to wear GPS devices upon their release from prison.
- *Regulations of ATV use by children*: Sponsored a bill that would expand regulations for operators of all-terrain vehicles in Massachusetts by requiring all ATVs and snow vehicles to be registered by September 1, 2008 and enforcing strict age requirements in the use of these vehicles.
- *Breast Feeding Protection*: Voted to ensure that women who breast feed in public cannot face criminal charges for public exposure.

JOB GROWTH AND LOWERING TAXES

- *Small Group Purchasing*: Supported a measure to reduce Health Care costs by allowing small businesses to collectively purchase health care.
- *Sales Tax Holiday*: Supported the state's sales tax free weekend that helps retailers and small businesses improve sales at a normally slow time of year.
- *Small Business Tax Reductions*: Opposed small business tax increases and was successful in reducing small business tax rates from 8.75% to 8.00%.
- *Gas Tax Increase*: Voted against a 19 cent increase in the tax gas tax.
- *Income tax increase*: Voted against a proposed increase in the income tax.
- *Sales Tax*: voted against the increase in the sales tax.
- *Unemployment Insurance Rate*: Prevented significant increase in UI rate, saving businesses \$150m annually and boosting job growth in a slumping economy.
- *Creation of Bay State Competitiveness Fund*: Targets growth opportunities in the life science industry, emerging technologies, clean energy and workforce training and development.
- *I-93 Interchange*: Key advocate for the advancement and development of a new, full service interchange on I-93 in the Ballardvale region of Andover – unlocking development potential for Merrimack Valley.

ENVIRONMENT

- *Environmental Endangerment Act*: Introduced successful legislation that would provide substantial financial penalties and prison sentences for individuals or organizations that recklessly endanger individuals or natural resources.
- *Clean Energy and Biofuels Act*: Law to stimulate the expansion of the clean energy industry in Massachusetts.
- *Global Warming Solutions Act*: Makes Massachusetts a leader by reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions by 25%.

- *Salisbury Beach Trust Fund*: Trust fund to ensure funding to protect and preserve the beach for future generations.
- *GREEN Communities Act*: Voted to allow municipalities to construct, own and operate small renewable energy generation sources.
- *Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI)*: Voted to secure Massachusetts' participation in the RGGI to stabilize carbon dioxide emissions in the New England and Mid-Atlantic region.
- *Toxic Chemicals in Household Products*: Promotes and requires the use of safer alternatives in products manufactured for use and for sales in Massachusetts.
- *Lawrence Airport Noise Assistance*: Worked with local and state officials to provide more public input and greater noise abatement procedures for neighbors of the Lawrence Municipal airport.
- *Access to KI (Potassium Iodine) Pills*: Ensures that residents in established emergency planning zones surrounding nuclear plants have timely access to KI pills in the event of a nuclear accident.
- *Power Plant Growth*: Successfully worked with local and state officials to prevent the siting of the Nickel Hill power plant on the west Methuen town line with Dracut.
- *Natural Gas Pipeline*: Successfully worked with local and state officials to prevent a natural gas pipeline from running within only a few hundred yards of homes in east Methuen and Haverhill.

VETERANS & SENIORS

- *Welcome Home Bill*: Supported a law to provide tax-free bonuses of up to \$1,000 for active duty Massachusetts residents serving on or after September 11, 2001.
- *Merit Plan Bill*: Supported legislation that provides tuition and fee waivers at Massachusetts state and community colleges for members of the National Guard.
- *Veterans Appreciation*: Hosted an annual Veterans' Appreciation Breakfast to honor the service of veterans from across the Merrimack Valley.
- *Burial Benefits for Indigent Veterans*: Supported legislation to increase burial benefits for indigent veterans and added Veteran's Day as a day when flags shall be placed on veteran graves.
- *Civil Service Exams*: Successfully lobbied Administration to allow the state's Human Resource Division to administer the state civil service exam to soldiers currently serving overseas.

EDUCATION

- *Higher Education Task Force*: Appointed to Senate task force on higher education, which produced a critical report about how to strengthen and advance public higher education.
- *Charter School support*: Advocated for continued funding of charter schools and for lifting the cap on the number of charter schools in the Commonwealth
- *Turn Around Schools*: Introduced key legislation for underperforming schools.
- *School Building Assistance Board*: Supported key creation of SBAB to overhaul and ensure funding of school building renovations in the Commonwealth, including many throughout the First Essex District.
- *Adult Basic Education*: Lead sponsor of budget amendments that support full funding for state-wide ABE programs and successfully fought efforts to move oversight of the state's Adult Basic Education programs from the Department of Education to Department of Labor.

- Department of Education: Voted to elevate the Secretary of the Department of Education to a Cabinet level agency, acknowledging the importance of education in the Commonwealth.
- *Higher Education Bond Bill*: Voted in favor of a \$2 billion higher education bond that included vital funds for Northern Essex Community College as well as the University of Massachusetts.
- Northern Essex Community College Technology Center: Worked with NECC leaders and state officials to ensure the release of funding to complete the College's new technology center.

REFORMER

- Illegal Immigrants: Opposed granting driver's licenses for illegal immigrants.
- The People's Seat: Voted against giving the Governor the power to make a temporary appointment to the U.S. Senate.
- Pension Reform: Voted to limit state pension benefits.
- Economic Development Agencies: Overhauled the state's network of agencies charged with developing business interests and economic activity in Massachusetts to create a streamlined, cohesive model with built-in oversight and transparency measures to reduce redundancy and waste, and promote a more business-friendly environment that will ultimately help stimulate job growth in the Commonwealth.
- Tough on Lawrence: Supported a measure that would appoint a state overseer (and a control board, if necessary) to monitor the city's ability to balance its books.
- Tough on Essex Regional Retirement Board: Co-sponsored legislation to address the widespread allegations of improper acts by the board through a series of reforms, including the requirement that the Public Employee Retirement Administration Commission (PERAC) appoint a receiver to oversee and direct the operations of the board.
- Municipal Health Costs: Voted to allow cities and towns to join the state's Group Insurance Commission (GIC) which would allow them to slow the rate of municipal health insurance increases.
- Reducing the size of State Government: Co-sponsored a package of bills aimed at providing the mechanism for improving state government efficiency and economy, including establishing a procedure to eliminate waste, duplication and inefficiency in State Government Agencies & Authorities.
- *Welfare Reform*: Ensured that Massachusetts' welfare system complied with federal guidelines, tightening work and school requirements for recipients and their dependent children.
- Cuts Through Red Tape: Assisted Methuen-based Parlex corporation in receiving a state variance, allowing them to resume full operations and create 40 new local jobs.

OTHER

- *Health Care Cost Containment*: Voted to support a package of new initiatives aimed at lowering escalating health care costs and improving access to primary care through the adoption of electronic medical records and uniform billing among health care providers and insurance companies.
- Insurance Coverage of Mental Health Conditions: Voted to insure that an expanded list of mental health related conditions are covered by health insurance companies.
- Mental Health Services for Children: Voted to increase pediatric screenings for mental illness and require the Dept of Early Education and Care to provide behavioral health consultations.

- Mortgage Foreclosure and Employer Assisted Housing: Voted to make mortgage fraud a crime and require anyone arranging a mortgage to be licensed by the state.
- Student Health Insurance: Inserted language in the state budget that would move students from more expensive MassHealth into college sponsored health plans, potentially saving the state millions of dollars.

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