

*"A few months ago, I announced that I was exploring a run for Governor of Massachusetts. I feel proud of and grateful to this state, and I want to find the best way to give back. Over these past few months I have visited with and heard from folks in towns around the Commonwealth - from the Berkshires to Boston and from Cape Cod to Cape Ann.*

*We talked about the amazing progress our state has made in education, in building a healthcare system that can be a model for the nation, and in reaching out to its most vulnerable citizens. We talked about the spirit and values of Massachusetts - how in spite of an economic downturn, and in the face of adversity and challenges, our people and our leaders have been able to persevere and continue the progress of our forebears.*

*But we also talked about how we can do better. We can do more to ensure that the opportunities Massachusetts has given to me and to so many others are open to every single child in the Commonwealth.*

*We lead the nation - with hard work and a continued commitment to making our state better and taking care of the most vulnerable among us, we can ensure that tradition of leadership continues.*

*As a doctor, an educator, an innovator and someone who has dedicated his professional career to making things work better and to helping people - I am ready to lead.*

*That is why I am announcing today that I am a candidate for Governor of Massachusetts.*

*Our state faces many great challenges, and I want to work with you to address them together.*

*There will be a time for an announcement tour and traditional campaigning later - but for now, I am encouraging all of my supporters to take another step toward ensuring Massachusetts continues to lead the nation - by doing everything they can to elect my friend Ed Markey to the United States Senate.*

*We need to ensure that reliable, strong leaders like Ed Markey represent Massachusetts in Washington and that they stand up for progressive values and common sense leadership.*

*I look forward to working hand in hand with Senator Markey in the coming months and as your next Governor."*