



Your vote counts, so go out and vote!

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RE✓UP!


The Arc
Massachusetts

SEPTEMBER 2022

September 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 ★	13 ★	14 ★	15 ★	16 ★	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

www.a-printable-calendar.com



**September 12-16, 2022 is
National Disability Voter Registration Week**

What is voting?

Your right

Your voice

Your opportunity
to create change



Voting “is a way for elected officials to know what their constituents want, what our country wants. The way to make your voice heard is by your vote.”

“It’s important to vote because it’s how we, as a nation, impact the laws that structure our society.”



Voting “is the most basic fundamental right that American citizens have, and it’s so incredibly important that people exercise it.”

- Congressman Joe Kennedy III

Primary Election

- An election to choose the candidates that will represent their political party in the general election.
- This year in Massachusetts, the **Primary Election** will be held on Tuesday, **September 20, 2022.**

General Election

- A regular election for statewide or national offices.
- This year in Massachusetts, the **General Election** will be held on Tuesday, **November 8, 2022.**



Types of Elections

Calendar

August 31, 2022

(Wednesday)

Registration deadline for the
Massachusetts Primary Election

September 20, 2022

(Tuesday)

The Massachusetts **Primary Election**

October 19, 2022

(Wednesday)

Registration deadline for
The Massachusetts General Election

November 8, 2022

(Tuesday)

The Massachusetts **General Election**



Who can vote?

You may vote in Massachusetts if:

You are a **citizen** of the United States;
and

You are **18 years old**; and

You are **not currently incarcerated** by
reason of a felony conviction.

If you meet the above requirements,
you may apply online, by mail, or in
person.



Are people with disabilities allowed to vote?

Voting is a fundamental right of all American citizens.



“Massachusetts residents who are under guardianship are still eligible to register and vote under most circumstances. **Unless a court specifically states that the person under guardianship is restricted from registering or voting, that person remains eligible to vote**, as long as they meet all other requirements for voting.”

- Elections Division, Secretary of the Commonwealth

Know Your Rights

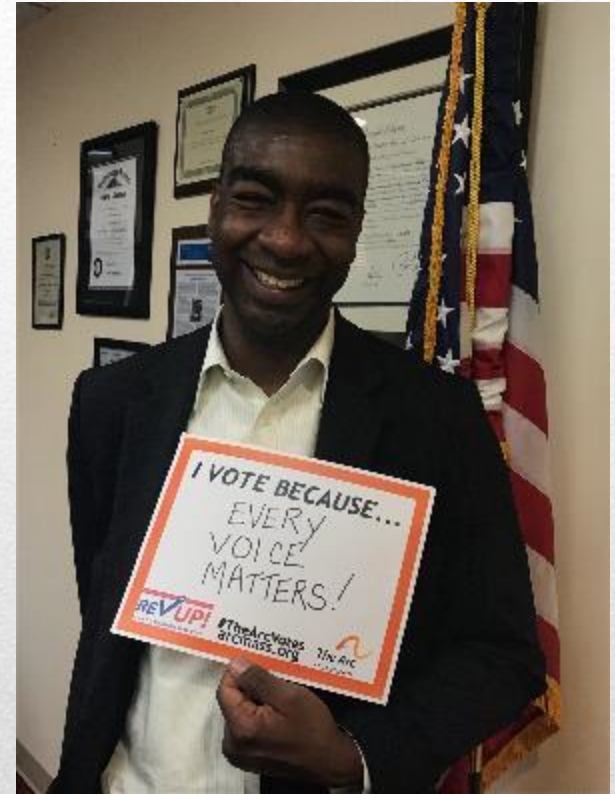
As a voter with a disability, you have the right to

- vote privately and independently
- have an accessible polling place with voting machines for voters with disabilities

You may either

- seek assistance from workers at the polling place who have been trained to use the accessible voting machines, or
- bring someone to help you vote

You may request your local election officials to tell you about any voting aids, voting assistance, and absentee ballot procedures that are available.



Commissioner Thomas Hicks, Chairman of the U.S. Election Assistance Commission

Getting Help with Voting

If you need help voting because of a disability, **you have the right to get help from almost any person you choose:**

- a family member
- a friend
- a supporter
- a poll worker

The two kinds of people who *cannot* help you vote are:

- your boss or someone working for your boss
- if you belong to a labor union, an officer or agent of that labor union



Anyone helping you vote must respect your choices and cannot assume he or she knows who you want to vote for.

Your Rights

When Someone Is Helping You Vote

- The helper must respect your privacy at all times.
- If you have a hard time reading the ballot, you may
 - ask for a voting machine that reads aloud the choices on the ballot
 - ask a helper to read aloud all the names on the ballot.
- If you have a hard time marking the ballot by yourself, you can tell the helper which person you want to vote for.

What You Can Expect from Officials When You Vote

- **Election officials must help you vote if you ask for their help.**
 - They must ensure that you can use all of their voting booths, ballots or other voting forms, voting machines, and any other voting equipment.
- **Service providers and election officials must make reasonable changes to their policies in order to help you vote.**
- **The National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) says that all disability service agencies are voter registration agencies.**
 - They must give you voter registration forms, if you ask for them.
 - They must help you fill them out.
 - They must send the form to the appropriate agency for processing.

Accessible Polling Places

Accessible voting provides the same opportunity for access and participation to persons with disabilities as for other voters.

All polling places in Massachusetts must provide access on a permanent or temporary basis on Election Day.

Voting assistance and absentee voting offer options that persons with disabilities *may* use to vote, but are not considered substitutes for actual accessibility to the voting location.

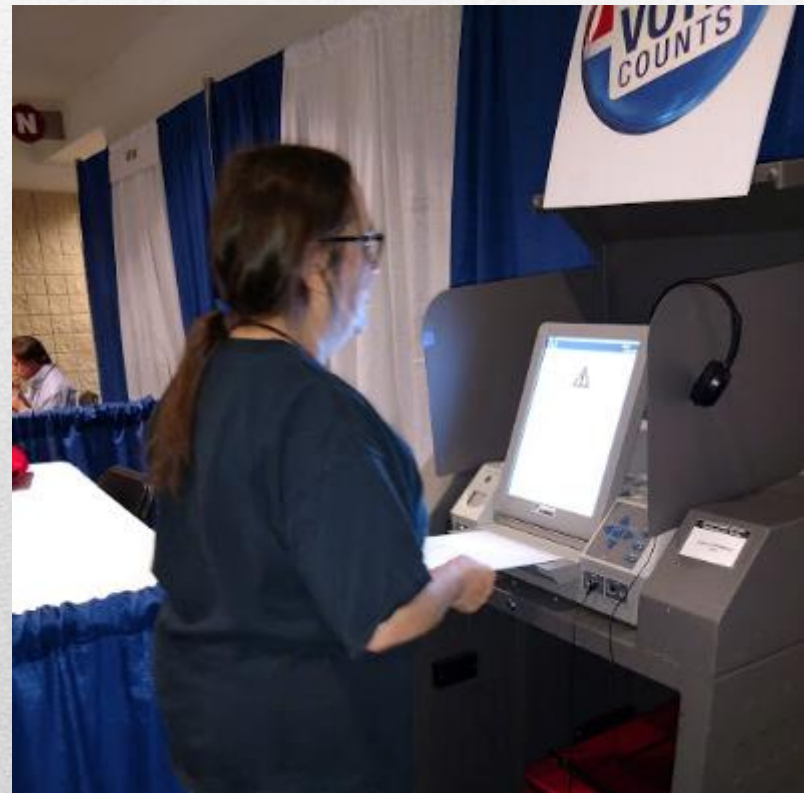


Accessible Voting Equipment

Polling places must be equipped for voters with disabilities, allowing them to have the **same opportunity to vote privately and independently**. Every precinct must have at least one accessible voting machine available.

The **AutoMARK**:

- is a marking device that uses audio cue capacity for visually impaired voters
- has a feature that will greatly magnify the ballot or display the ballot high-contrast for voters that have limited visual impairment
- can produce an oral report to the voter of the choices selected prior to the voter printing the ballot.



Accessibility complaints?

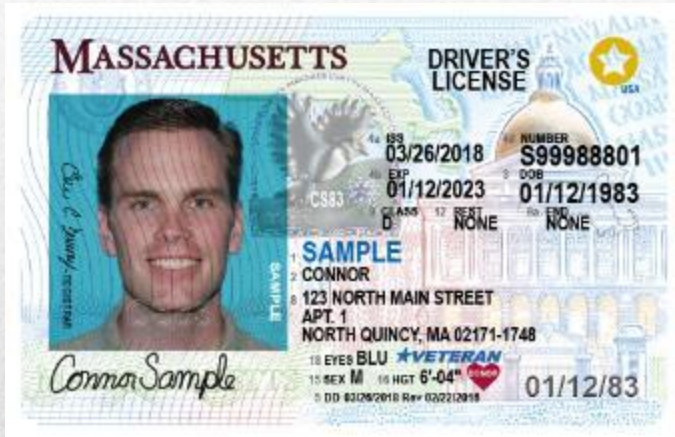
The Elections Division of the Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts is committed to making voting as accessible for all voters.

Please let the Elections Division know how it can improve accessibility by calling 800-462-VOTE (8683) (toll free) or 617-727-2828.

You may also e-mail elections@sec.state.ma.us.

When is identification required?

If you are voting for the first time or have been an inactive voter, you may be asked to show identification.



Acceptable identification must include your name and the address at which you are registered to vote. Examples of acceptable identification include: a driver's license, state-issued ID card, recent utility bill, rent receipt, lease, a copy of a voter registration affidavit, or any other printed identification which contains the voter's name and address.

How to register to vote

1) You may register to vote online.

- In order to register to vote online, you must have a signature on file with the Registry of Motor Vehicles.
- If you currently have a Massachusetts driver's license or state ID card, you may use the online voter registration application to register, update your address, or change your party affiliation.
- Voter registration forms submitted online must be submitted by midnight on the date of the voter registration deadline.

<https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ovr/>

How to register to vote

2) You may register to vote by mail.

- If you do not qualify to register to vote online, or if you would prefer to register by mail, you may download the voter registration form available on the Elections Division webpage. (See the example on the next slide.)
- The form must be completed, signed, and delivered to your local election official.
- Voter registration forms submitted by mail must be postmarked no later than the voter registration deadline.

<https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/eleifv/howreg.htm>

Sample Voter Registration Form

Print all information in black ink. Follow above instructions for proper delivery.

1	Check one: Are you a Citizen of the United States of America? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No NOTE: If you checked "no," do not complete this form.		
2	Full name:	<i>last name</i>	<i>first name</i>
			<i>middle name or initial</i>
			<i>Jr. Sr. II III IV</i> <i>(circle one if appropriate)</i>
3	Former name:	<i>last name</i>	<i>first name</i>
			<i>middle name or initial</i>
			<i>Jr. Sr. II III IV</i> <i>(circle one if appropriate)</i>
4	Address where you live now (<i>street number / street name / rural route number & box number / apartment number / city or town / zip code</i>):		
5	Address where you receive all your mail (if different from #4):		
6	Date of birth: <i>month day year</i>	7	Identification #: <i>license # or last 4 digits of SSN</i>
		8	Telephone (optional): <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Check if unlisted</i>
9	Party enrollment or designation (check one): <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Democratic</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Republican</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Libertarian</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>No Party (unenrolled)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Political Designation (not a political party)</i> :		
10	Address at which you were last registered to vote (<i>street number / street name / rural route number & box number / apartment number / city or town / zip code</i>):		
11	If the applicant is unable to sign this form, give the name, address and telephone number (optional) of the person helping the applicant: <i>name</i> <i>address</i> <i>telephone number (optional)</i>		
12	I hereby swear (affirm) that I am the person named above, that the above information is true, that I AM A CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES , that I am at least 16 years old and I understand that I must be 18 years old to be eligible to vote, that I am not a person under a guardianship which prohibits my registering to vote, that I am not temporarily or permanently disqualified by law from voting because of corrupt practices in respect to elections, that I am not currently incarcerated for a felony conviction, and that I consider this residence to be my home. Signed under the penalty of perjury.		
13	Today's date: <i>month day year</i>	14	Signed: <i>Sign your name here.</i>

How to register to vote

3) You may register to vote in person.

- If you would like to register in person, you may do so at any local election office, as well as the Elections Division of the Secretary of the Commonwealth's office (1 Ashburton Place, #1705, Boston, MA 02108).
- Voter registration is also available as part of every transaction at the Registry of Motor Vehicles and at certain public assistance agencies.
- Voter registration forms completed in person are valid as of the day that they are signed.

How do I find out where to vote?

Find my election information

To find your election information:

- Enter your residential address.
- This address must be in a city or town in Massachusetts.
- If you live in a village, view list of [village names \(opens in new window or tab\)](#) to find the city or town name for your village.
- Required fields are marked with an asterisk (*).

* Required: Enter your street address in 3 separate boxes

1. Your street number (numbers only):
2. Your street name:
3. Select street suffix:

* Required: Provide a city or town, or your zip code

- Your city or town:
- Or your zip code (numbers only):

Clear fields

Show my results

<http://www.sec.state.ma.us/wheredoivotema/bal/MyElectionInfo.aspx>



**OFFICIAL BALLOT
ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION
WAKEFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS
APRIL 25, 2017**

Betsy Sheeran
TOWN CLERK

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

- A. TO VOTE, completely fill in the OVAL to the RIGHT of your choice(s) like this:
- B. Follow directions as to the number of candidates to be marked for each office.
- C. To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, write the candidate's name on the line provided and completely fill in the OVAL.

<p>BOARD OF SELECTMEN</p> <p>Three Year Term Vote for Two</p> <p>PHYLIS J. HULL 14 Indian Hill Rd. Candidates for Re-election <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>DANIEL L. BENJAMIN, JR. 11 Forest St. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>MEHRUN N. BUTT 884 Main St. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>STEPHEN NATHAN CHASE 21 Essex St. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>EDWARD DOMBROSKI, JR. 18 Chestnut St. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>JAMES A. LAFRANCIA 241 Salem St. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>_____ (Write-in) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>_____ (Write-in) <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>SCHOOL COMMITTEE</p> <p>Three Year Term Vote for Two</p> <p>CHRISTOPHER J. CALLANAN 2029 Salem St. <input type="checkbox"/> Candidates for Re-election</p> <p>ASHLEY SHAE CHASE 212 Main Street <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>ANNE-MARIE FORTIER 18 Greenwood Ave. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>EVAN MICHAEL KENNEY 9 Cedar St. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>GREGORY POWEN 11 _____ <input type="checkbox"/> (Write-in)</p> <p>_____ (Write-in) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>_____ (Write-in) <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>LIBRARY TRUSTEES</p> <p>Three Year Term Vote for Three</p> <p>MICHAEL J. BOURQUE 11 Chestnut St. <input type="checkbox"/> Candidates for Re-election</p> <p>JOSEPH SEBASTIANO TRINGALE 17 Ames St. <input type="checkbox"/> Candidates for Re-election</p> <p>SUSAN M. WELBY 12 Ipswich St. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>_____ (Write-in) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>_____ (Write-in) <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>TOWN CLERK</p> <p>Three Year Term Vote for One</p> <p>BETSY SHEERAN 27 Spruce St. <input type="checkbox"/> Candidates for Re-election</p> <p>_____ (Write-in) <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>MUNICIPAL GAS & LIC. COMMISSIONER</p> <p>Three Year Term Vote for One</p> <p>JOHN J. WARCHOL 10 Richardson Ave. <input type="checkbox"/> Candidates for Re-election</p> <p>_____ (Write-in) <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>LANDING BOARD</p> <p>Five Year Term Vote for One</p> <p>WILLIAM M. D'AMORE 11 Canton St. <input type="checkbox"/> Candidates for Re-election</p> <p>_____ (Write-in) <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>MODERATOR</p> <p>One Year Term Vote for One</p> <p>WILLIAM HARBISON CARROLL 41 Forest St. <input type="checkbox"/> Candidates for Re-election</p> <p>_____ (Write-in) <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>BOARD OF ASSESSORS</p> <p>Three Year Term Vote for One</p> <p>SEBASTIAN P. TINE 133 Greenwood St. <input type="checkbox"/> Candidates for Re-election</p> <p>_____ (Write-in) <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>BOARD OF HEALTH</p> <p>Three Year Term Vote for One</p> <p>ALISON J. MEHLMAN 26 Greenwood Ave. <input type="checkbox"/> Candidates for Re-election</p> <p>_____ (Write-in) <input type="checkbox"/></p>
		<p>CONSTABLE</p> <p>Three Year Term Vote for One</p> <p>JOHN J. RUEHRWEIN, SR. 31 Pine St. <input type="checkbox"/> Candidates for Re-election</p> <p>KEVIN J. LOPES 725 Oak St. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>ROBERT S. STEWART 28 Elmwood St. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>_____ (Write-in) <input type="checkbox"/></p>

Sample Ballot

[Image: Photo of a sample Official Ballot Annual Town Election Wakefield, Massachusetts for April 25, 2017]

QUESTION 2
LAW PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or the House of Representatives on or before May 5, 2020?

SUMMARY

This proposed law would implement a voting system known as "ranked-choice voting," in which voters rank one or more candidates by order of preference. Ranked-choice voting would be used in primary and general elections for all Massachusetts statewide offices, state legislative offices, federal congressional offices, and certain other offices beginning in 2022. Ranked-choice voting would not be used in elections for president, county commissioner, or regional district school committee member.

Under the proposed law, votes would be counted in a series of rounds. In the first round, if one candidate received more than 50 percent of the first-place votes, that candidate would be declared the winner and no other rounds would be necessary. If no candidate received more than 50 percent of the first-place votes, then the candidate or candidates who received the fewest first-place votes would be eliminated and, in the next round, each vote for an eliminated candidate would instead be counted toward the next highest-ranked candidate on that voter's ballot. Depending on the number of candidates, additional rounds of counting could occur, with the last-place candidate or candidates in each round being eliminated and the votes for an eliminated candidate going to the voter's next choice out of the remaining candidates. A tie for last place in any round would be broken by comparing the tied candidates' support in earlier rounds. Ultimately, the candidate who was, out of the remaining candidates, the preference of a majority of voters would be declared the winner.

Ranked-choice voting would be used only in races where a single candidate is to be declared the winner and not in races where more than one person is to be elected.

Under the proposed law, if no candidate received more than 50 percent of first-place votes in the first round, the rounds of ballot-counting necessary for ranked-choice voting would be conducted at a central tabulation facility. At the facility, voters' rankings would be entered into a computer, which would then be used to calculate the results of each round of the counting process. The proposed law provides that candidates in a statewide or district election could have at least three days to request a recount.

The Secretary of State would be required to issue regulations to implement the proposed law and conduct a voter education campaign about the ranked-choice voting process. The proposed law would take effect on January 1, 2022.

A YES VOTE would create a system of ranked-choice voting in which voters would have the option to rank candidates in order of preference and votes would be counted in rounds, eliminating candidates with the lowest votes until one candidate has received a majority.

YES

A NO VOTE would make no change in the laws governing voting and how votes are counted.

NO

QUESTION 3
THIS QUESTION IS NOT BINDING

Shall the representative for this district be instructed to vote in favor of legislation that would require Massachusetts to achieve 100% renewable energy use within the next two decades, starting immediately and making significant progress within the first five years while protecting impacted workers and business?

YES

NO

QUESTION 4
THIS QUESTION IS NOT BINDING

Shall the representative for this district be instructed to vote in favor of changes to the applicable House of Representative rules to make the results of all the votes in that body's Legislative committees publicly available on the Legislature's website?

YES

NO

Sample Ballot Initiative Question

[Image: Photo of a sample of Massachusetts Ballot Initiative Questions

Absentee Ballot

In order to be eligible to vote by absentee ballot in Massachusetts, a voter must be prevented from voting at their polling place on Election Day, due to:

- Absence from the voter's city or town on Election Day
- Have a disability that keeps you from voting at your polling place
- Religious belief

Sample Ballot

**ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION
ABSENTEE BALLOT
NORTHBOROUGH,
MASSACHUSETTS
May 8, 2018**

Andrew T. David
TOWN CLERK

To vote for a candidate, fill in the oval to the right of the candidate's name. To vote for a person not on the ballot, write that person's name and residence in the blank space provided and fill in the oval.

<p>MODERATOR 1 YEAR</p> <p>Frederick A. George Jr. 36 Wesson Terrace <i>(Incumbent)</i></p> <p>WRITE IN SPACE ONLY</p>	<p>N/S REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE (Northborough Candidates) 3 YEARS</p> <p>vote for two</p> <p>Helynn B. Winter 22 Grout Mill Lane <i>(Incumbent)</i></p> <p>Kathleen M. Hewland 20 School Street</p> <p>WRITE IN SPACE ONLY</p>
<p>BOARD OF SELECTMEN 3 YEARS</p> <p>William J. Pantazio 10 Mulberry Lane <i>(Incumbent)</i></p> <p>Julianne S. Hirsh 19 Smith Road</p> <p>Timothy M. Kaelin 42 Davis Street</p> <p>WRITE IN SPACE ONLY</p>	<p>N/S REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE (Southborough Candidates) 3 YEARS</p> <p>vote for two</p> <p>Kathleen A. Harragan 28 Darlene Drive <i>(Incumbent)</i></p> <p>Cathy A. Kea 1 Ashley Road <i>(Incumbent)</i></p> <p>WRITE IN SPACE ONLY</p>
<p>PLANNING BOARD 3 YEARS</p> <p>vote for two</p> <p>Leslie RM Harrison 28 Moore Lane <i>(Incumbent)</i></p> <p>Kerri A. Martinek 16 Hemlock Drive</p> <p>Anthony W. Zilon 17 Franklin Circle</p> <p>WRITE IN SPACE ONLY</p>	<p>SCHOOL COMMITTEE 3 YEARS</p> <p>vote for two</p> <p>Lauren C. Bailey 11 Elmwood Drive</p> <p>Hallie Joan Barak 311 Davis Street</p> <p>Kelly L. Guenette 69 Northgate Road</p> <p>WRITE IN SPACE ONLY</p>

Contact information

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617 723-9125 Fax
617 892-4404 VP
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Julie Heffernan Heffernan@arcmass.org
Katerina Daley Daley@arcmass.org
Co-Coordinators, Get Out the Vote Campaign
The Arc of Massachusetts
217 South Street
Waltham, MA 02453

Resources

“AutoMARK Machine.” *REV UP! Register, Educate, Vote: Increasing the Disability Vote in Massachusetts*. <http://revupma.org/wp/vote/automark-machine/>. Accessed 12 July 2018.

“Elections and Voting.” *William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts*. <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/eleidx.htm>. Accessed 12 July 2018.

“Getting Help with Voting.” *Vote. It’s Your Right: A Know-Your-Rights Guide for Voters with Mental Disabilities and Advocates*. http://www.bazelon.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/2016_Voter-Guide-Plain-Language.pdf. Accessed 14 July 2018.

Kennedy, Joseph, III. 12 June 2018.

O’Malley, Debra. “A Get Out the Vote Project.” Received by Julie Heffernan, 19 June 2018.

“#TheArcVotes.” *The Arc of Massachusetts*. <http://arcmass.org/voting>. Accessed 12 July 2018.
