

Massachusetts' third congressional district is poised to become a hub of green jobs, including good-paying, union jobs manufacturing clean energy products such as wind turbines, solar panels, and other innovative technologies.

The third district has a proud manufacturing history; affordable industrial and commercial real estate; existing human capital; easy access to Boston; and a strong network of community colleges and four-year institutions. These factors make us a natural fit for new and expanding clean energy companies, especially those seeking to fill high-skill manufacturing jobs.

The below policy proposals can help bring thousands of green jobs to the third district, one of my top priorities. In doing so, we can grow the local economy while also addressing the effects of climate change.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

One of the keys to attract clean energy businesses to the third district is ensuring that workers in our communities have the skills to fill in-demand positions. According to the 2017 Massachusetts Clean Energy Industry Report, nearly three quarters of clean energy employers in Massachusetts reported difficulty in finding qualified workers. It is incumbent on Federal, state, and local elected officials to work with our business community and higher education institutions to empower our workers with the new skills and knowledge they need, so they are prepared to take advantage of growth in clean energy industries.

» **Job Training Programs:** I support and would seek to expand federal grant programs that enable community colleges, vocational schools, and non-profits – in partnership with the private sector and workforce development authorities – to provide industry-specific skills training to workers.

» **Apprenticeships:** I would advocate for the expansion of apprenticeship programs in fields related to clean energy, where young people can learn specific trades while earning a living wage and receiving union benefits.

TAX INCENTIVES

Financial incentives are an important element of the effort to generate growth in the clean energy sector and create jobs. Companies can and should be incentivized to invest in clean energy and create green jobs—it's good for the community, it's good for the environment, and it should be good for the bottom line.

» **Federal Level:** I support the Renewable Electricity Production Tax Credit and federal tax policy that provides consistency and reliability for the development of clean energy projects. We should avoid the cycle of boom and bust development that comes with incentives and credits that fluctuate from year to year.

» **State and Local Level:** I would work closely with state and local leaders to attract businesses through Tax Increment Financing agreements and other incentives, which have been successfully used elsewhere in Massachusetts.

COALITION BUILDING

To support locally-driven innovation and growth, I would use the power of the bully pulpit to promote clean energy and convene the relevant stakeholders in clean energy production: Federal, state, and local officials, private sector, workers, unions, utility companies, educators, and advocacy organizations.

» **Green Jobs Forums:** I would work to regularly bring together stakeholders in communities around the third district to learn how to best collaborate on clean energy and jobs projects.

» **Investment Conferences:** Energy investors from around the country and the world should be connected with Massachusetts companies and municipalities, and I would help facilitate those engagements.

FUNDING FOR DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY PROGRAMS

I would aggressively stand up for adequate funding of successful Department of Energy (DOE) initiatives that help innovative renewable energy technology start-ups, and therefore help create new jobs.

» **Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E):** I would defend DOE's ARPA-E program, which provides grants to early-stage energy-related start-ups, a program the Trump administration has proposed eliminating.

» **Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE):** I would fight for full funding for EERE, which does research on clean energy technology. In its FY19 budget, the Trump administration proposed reducing its budget by 65 percent.