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**Commonwealth Coalition Endorses Marty Walz**

The Commonwealth Coalition announced today its endorsement of Marty Walz for State Representative in the 8<sup>th</sup> Suffolk District.

“Our state needs experienced and committed community leaders like Marty Walz who will put the interests of the working families first on Beacon Hill,” said Joe O’Brien Political Director of the Coalition. “The Commonwealth Coalition is excited to see a dynamic, young leader like Walz who will continue Paul Demakis’ legacy of advancing progressive issues in the State Legislature.”

Walz, who is making her first run for public office, has also been endorsed by Rep. Paul Demakis. Walz will be facing a Beacon Hill lobbyist in the primary election on September 14<sup>th</sup>.

“The Commonwealth Coalition believes that Marty Walz will be a truly independent and respected voice who will fight for more democratic rules in the House of Representatives,” said O’Brien.

In her campaign, Walz is focusing on the need to create more affordable housing as well as preserve affordable units through expiring use legislation. She is also committed to the expansion of early education and the restoration of budget cuts to the University of Massachusetts so all college students in the Commonwealth can receive a high-quality education.

The Commonwealth Coalition is a statewide coalition of twenty-one citizen, labor, environmental and women’s organizations working together on an agenda of progressive politics and democratic reform in Massachusetts. Founded in 1988, the Coalition works to elect progressive leaders to the state legislature. Over the past 12 years, the Coalition has endorsed and provided support to over 250 campaigns and won in 75% of endorsed races.