



Dear Friends,

Did you know that there are **5 pick your own peaches farms** right here in our district? Yes, that's right, peaches in New England! And lucky us, we have one in our very own yard...just our one tree kept us in peaches for 2 months last season. But if peaches aren't your thing, you have 9 strawberry spots, 7 blueberry plots and much, much more to choose from.

Read on!

20 ideas, 20 minutes, \$20: Makeover

Here is Idea #17 in our campaign to give voters actual solutions to our current challenges and to provide **20 steps to a Total Democracy Makeover.**

We need you as partners in this journey to create a healthy, vibrant and thriving democracy. [If you like the idea, contribute \\$20.](#)

My opponents are in the kowtowing business--kowtowing to party establishment, big money, PAC, and K Street. **I am in the solutions business.** The solutions business for Main Street's small businesses--your business.

Small farms and small businesses need lower taxes (Idea #1) and they need Congress to stop Big Ag corporate welfare.

Idea #17, Cut All Government Subsidies to Big Ag.

We are so fortunate to live on the North Shore, and while we might be famous for our good witches and delicious lobster, some of our best hidden jewels are our local farms. In fact, the **oldest continuing farm in operation in Massachusetts, established in 1642** is right here in our very own 6th District.

From these farms, to the cows in the pasture I see on my running path to the Essex Aggie, we have abundance.

But what we don't have is a representative making sure that the hardworking farmers and producers in our district get to **keep their hard-earned income out of the hands of their Big Ag competitors.**

In typical fashion of everything that Congress does, so much of our tax dollars, from small farms and small businesses, goes from our pockets into the giant coffers of Big Ag, which then makes Big-Money campaign contributions to the very congressmen aiding and abetting the big government subsidies to Big Ag in one giant negative feedback loop.

A nasty loop that leaves less money in the hands of small farms and small businesses where it belongs. In fact, the vast majority of subsidies, about 75%, goes to the biggest 10% of farming companies. This is not Congress helping the family farm--it is Congress crushing and killing it.

Equally as troubling are these facts:

- 4 companies control 75% of the international grain trade.
- 10 corporations in the U.S. control 50% of our food and beverage sales.
- 138 people, control those 10 boards.

Again, per its M.O., **Congress facilitates the growing monopolies and oligopolies to the devastating detriment of small businesses and small farms. From Main Street to Farm Road, Congress crushes the true working person and stifles growth and prosperity.** Do we really want so few people dictating the policies of the very food we need to live? Absolutely not.

What we need is for Congress to stop taking our money and giving it in handouts to millionaires and billionaires. Our agricultural policy is absurd, confiscatory, and downright criminal. In Massachusetts, larceny of property valued at more than \$250 could get you up to five years in prison, but in Congress you can steal millions from the taxpayers to enrich your already-fabulously wealthy friends and be handsomely rewarded with the job security of incumbency.

"The federal government paid out \$11.3 million in taxpayer-funded farm subsidies to 50 billionaires or farm businesses in which they had an interest between 1995 and 2012." [1] This list includes a co-founder of Microsoft, net worth \$15.8 billion, and the current U.S. Secretary of Commerce, Penny Pritzker, whose net worth is \$2.2 billion according to the Forbes 400 list of the richest Americans.

On what planet is it right to take money from hardworking small farms and small businesses and funnel it to the super-elite? Not on my planet, not in my district and not on my watch.

I have a simple solution--cut all government subsidies to Big Ag and unlock the potential of small farms, small business, fair competition, entrepreneurs and innovators and kickstart these engines of our economy.

Idea #17, Cut All Government Subsidies to Big Ag.

Any person in the real world can see that the Congress Corporate Welfare Program for Big Ag is illogical, a set up for disaster, bad for the American people and bad for the economy. Why hasn't my opponent done something about it?

My solution #17: Cut Subsidies to Big Ag = More Money in the Hands of Small Farms & Small Businesses = Fuel Job Growth & Grow Farm Road and Main Street.

[If you like Idea #17 click here now to contribute \\$20.](#)

[If you really like Idea #17 contribute \\$170.](#)

[If Idea #17 is your favorite so far, contribute \\$1700.](#)

For democracy,



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