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Physicist and Former Bernie Sanders–Trump Supporter Tom Stalcup Announces Candidacy for Massachusetts GOP Chair

Former congressional nominee calls for expanding the Republican Party, supporting JD Vance's position on Iran, and taking a leading role in national Republican policy reform.

BOSTON, MA — Dr. Tom Stalcup, a physicist, entrepreneur, and 2026 Republican congressional nominee in Massachusetts' Fourth District, today announced his candidacy for Chair of the Massachusetts Republican Party.

Stalcup, a former Bernie Sanders supporter who switched his support to Donald Trump in 2016, is running on a platform of expanding the Republican Party's membership, addressing affordability, restoring scientific integrity in policymaking, and establishing Massachusetts as an active participant in national Republican policy reform.

On Monday, Stalcup notified Republican State Committee members of his candidacy and outlined two principal objectives:

- Opening the Massachusetts Republican Party to what he calls the "Reasoned Majority," including former Democrats, libertarians, and unenrolled voters.
- Establishing the Massachusetts GOP as a national voice in Republican Party reform, beginning with public support for Vice President JD Vance's position on the war in Iran.

Stalcup believes the Massachusetts Republican Party should publicly oppose renewed hostilities with Iran following the November 3 election and advocate for a renewed national focus on affordability and America First priorities.

"I believe influencing national Republican policy must be a fundamental objective of the Massachusetts GOP," Stalcup said. "When Massachusetts citizens vote, even in state and local elections, their perceptions of our party are often shaped by its national policies. I want Massachusetts to play an active role in reforming those policies, rather than simply staying on the sidelines and responding to decisions made in Washington."

Stalcup cites his own political journey as part of his approach to expanding Republican membership in a state where nearly 70% of registered voters are unenrolled.

"I was drawn to Trump's willingness to challenge powerful interests, his opposition to endless wars, and his recognition of the struggles of working Americans," Stalcup said. "Those issues remain as important to me today as they were then."

Stalcup launched his congressional campaign outside Biogen's headquarters in Cambridge, focusing on pharmaceutical industry practices and the high cost of healthcare. His congressional candidacy and views on the politicization of science were featured in *Scientific American* in October.

Following the November election, Stalcup received a message from a voter who wrote: "I am a lifelong straight ticket Democrat. I voted for you . . . Your anti-war position made the difference."

"My vision is a Republican Party in Massachusetts that brings people together around common ground, takes on powerful interests, embraces scientific integrity, and fights relentlessly to make life affordable for working Americans," Stalcup said.

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