

# Massachusetts

## Basic Separation of Religion and Government



### Constitutional & Nondiscrimination Protections

- ▲ State Establishment Clause
- ▲ State Free Exercise Clause
- △ Strong Taxpayer Standing

**NONDISCRIMINATION LAWS**

- ▲ Employment
- ▲ Housing
- ▲ Public Accommodations
- ▲ Education
- ▼ Religious Exemptions
- ▼ Religious Tests for Office

### Special Privileges for Religion

**LIMITATIONS ON CLERGY PRIVILEGE**

- ▲ Mandatory Reporting
- ▲ Exception for Child Abuse
- △ Secular Celebrants

**RELIGIOUS EXEMPTIONS TO ENFORCEMENT**

- ▼ Foster Care & Adoption
- ▼ Public Health Protections
- ▼ Broad Liability Shield

**TAX EXEMPTIONS FOR PLACES OF WORSHIP**

- ▼ Limited Filing Requirements
- ▼ Parsonage Exemption
- ▼ Property Tax Exemption
- ▼ Sales Tax Exemption
- ▼ State Religious Freedom Restoration Act
- ▼ Anti-Blasphemy Law

## KEY

- ▲ State has this law or policy that enhances religious equality
- △ State does not have this law or policy that enhances religious equality
- ▼ State has this law or policy that harms religious equality
- ▽ State does not have this law or policy that harms religious equality

The 2024 State of the Secular States report is a project of American Atheists. To learn more about our critical state-level advocacy, research, and public policy work, please visit [states.atheists.org](https://states.atheists.org)

## Health Care & Wellness

- ▲ Medical Aid-In-Dying Law
- ▲ Health Care Transparency Law

### SANCTUARY LAWS

- ▲ Reproductive Care Confidentiality Protections
- ▲ Trans Care Confidentiality Protections
- ▲ Reproductive Care Provider Protections
- ▲ Trans Care Provider Protections

### ACCESS TO ABORTION

- ▲ Constitutional or Statutory Protections
- ▼ Statutory Abortion Ban
- ▼ Private Enforcement Provisions

### DENIAL OF CARE LAWS

- ▼ Refusals Related to Abortion
- ▼ Refusals Related to Contraception
- ▼ Refusals Related to Sterilization
- ▼ Religion-Based Health Care Law
- ▼ Child Negligence Exemptions for Faith Healing
- ▼ Nonmedical Exemption to Vaccination

## Education & Youth

- ▲ Protection From Child Marriage
- ▲ Protection From Conversion Therapy

### SEX EDUCATION

- ▲ Comprehensive Sex Education
- ▼ Abstinence Only Programs

### HOMESCHOOLING LAWS

- ▲ Instructor Qualifications
- ▲ Testing & Evaluation
- ▲ Child Abuse Prevention
- ▼ Exemptions

### SCHOOL CENSORSHIP LAWS

- ▼ Divisive Topics Restricted
- ▼ LGBTQ Topics Restricted
- ▼ Religious Opt-Outs
- ▼ Undermines Children's Rights

### ANTI-TRANS YOUTH LAWS

- ▼ Medical Ban
- ▼ Athlete Ban
- ▼ Anti-Science / Anti-Evolution Law
- ▼ Bible Class Law
- ▼ Religious Displays in Schools
- ▼ School Vouchers & Tax Credits
- ▼ School Prayer Law
- ▼ Compelled Pledge Law
- ▼ Released Time Laws
- ▼ School Credit for Religious Education
- ▼ Campus License to Discriminate Law
- ▼ Religious Daycare Exemption