

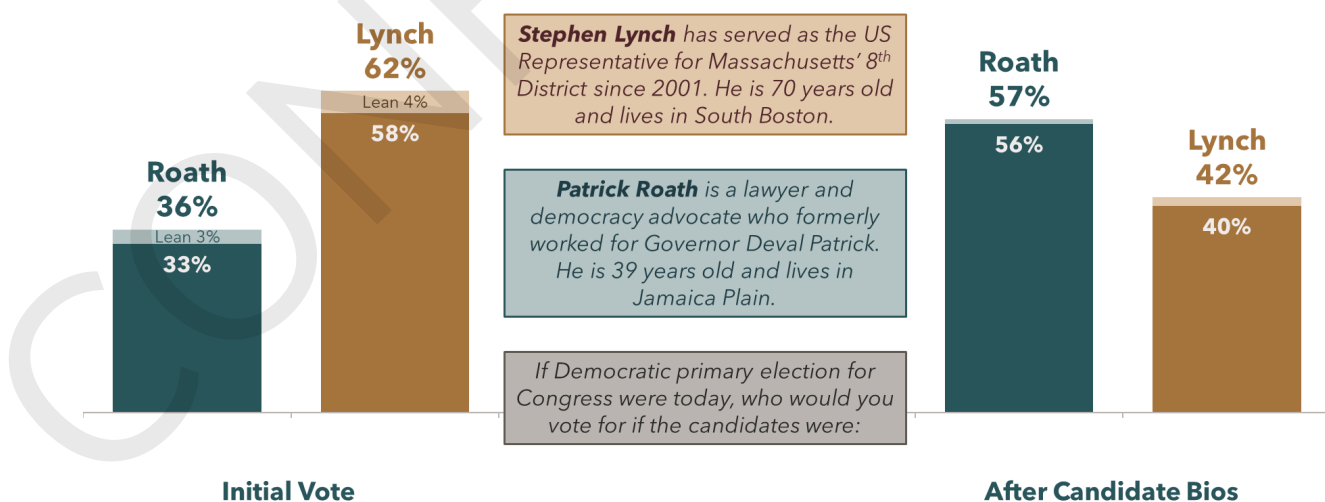
**TO:** Interested Parties  
**FROM:** Workbench Strategy  
**RE:** **CONFIDENTIAL** State of the Race - MA8  
**DATE:** March 2, 2026

This memo outlines results from a poll conducted by Workbench Strategy from February 17-19, 2026 among 400 Likely September 2026 Democratic Primary Voters in Massachusetts' 8<sup>th</sup> Congressional District. Surveys were conducted in English via live telephone interviewing and text and email invitations to an online survey. The overall margin of error is  $\pm 4.89$  percentage points. For more information on this research, please contact Jane Rayburn at [jane@workbenchstrategy.com](mailto:jane@workbenchstrategy.com).

## Massachusetts' 8<sup>th</sup> voters are open to an alternative

An initial, uninformed vote among likely September 2026 Democratic primary voters results in an expected inclination toward the incumbent, Stephen Lynch. Lynch is nearly universally known to voters (95% Name ID; 58% favorable, 37% unfavorable), but undefined with a plurality (36%) saying they feel only somewhat favorable. Alternatively, Patrick Roath is nearly universally unknown to voters (78% never heard of/Don't Know), but the few who do know him rate him favorably (16% favorable).

While Lynch begins with a lead, very basic biographical information quickly changes the state of the race and Roath remarkably crosses the 50% threshold after just a brief introduction.



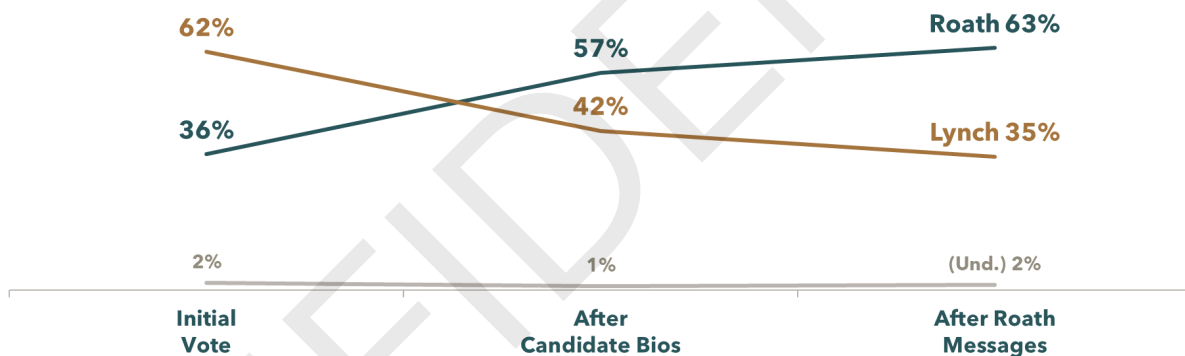


## Information about Roath moves voters to him significantly

Voters were given additional, positive information about Patrick Roath which outlined general background details, as well as specifics from his policy platform. Voters indicate they are highly mobile and continue to move toward Roath with more details. After the support battery, Roath leads Lynch 2:1 with nearly two-in-three voters indicating they will vote for him in September.

After messaging, Roath leads among nearly all key constituencies, but especially among women (70%), voters under 50 (70%), Democrats (73%), and every geography (Suffolk County, 63%; Norfolk County, 61%; Plymouth/Bristol Counties, 70%). Once voters hear more about Roath, he even wins a majority (53%) of the nearly three-in-five voters who say they feel positively about Lynch.

*Now, if the Democratic primary election for Congress in your district were today, who would you vote for if the candidates were:*



At this early stage of the election, the electorate of Massachusetts' 8<sup>th</sup> Congressional District is mobile and this race is highly competitive once voters learn more about Patrick Roath. Roath is largely unknown to voters, but just the simple introduction moves him across a majority threshold and additional positive communication consolidates a large 2:1 lead. In a well-funded, high communication scenario, Roath has a clear path to victory against a well-known incumbent.