


**DISCLOSURE OF APPEARANCE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST  
AS REQUIRED BY G. L. c. 268A, § 23(b)(3)**

	<b>PUBLIC EMPLOYEE INFORMATION</b>
Name of public employee:	Eric P. Lesser
Title or Position:	State Senator
Agency/Department:	Massachusetts Senate
Agency address:	24 Beacon St, Boston, MA 02133
Office Phone:	617-722-1291
Office E-mail:	Eric.Lesser@masenate.gov
	<p>In my capacity as a state, county or municipal employee, I am expected to take certain actions in the performance of my official duties. Under the circumstances, a reasonable person could conclude that a person or organization could unduly enjoy my favor or improperly influence me when I perform my official duties, or that I am likely to act or fail to act as a result of kinship, rank, position or undue influence of a party or person.</p> <p>I am filing this disclosure to disclose the facts about this relationship or affiliation and to dispel the appearance of a conflict of interest.</p>
	<b>APPEARANCE OF FAVORITISM OR INFLUENCE</b>
Describe the issue that is coming before you for action or decision.	I have filed SD.172 for the Senate's consideration. SD.172 seeks to ensure that forgivable portions of the federal paycheck protection program loan, pursuant to the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), are not subject to Massachusetts income tax, mirroring federal tax law. Other general legislation may come before the Senate that would codify the same policy objective.
What responsibility do you have for taking action or making a decision?	I may consider, debate and vote on SD. 172 or other general legislation related to the above policy objective.
Explain your relationship or affiliation to the person or organization.	My wife owns and operates a legal practice, the Law Offices of Alison Silber, which is a small business and received a loan pursuant to the federal paycheck protection program.
How do your official actions or decision matter to the person or organization?	I am submitting this disclosure in an abundance of caution, as no current conflicts exist. SD.172 and other general legislation seek to ensure that forgivable portions of the federal paycheck protection program loan, pursuant to the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), are not subject to Massachusetts income tax, mirroring federal tax law, which could impact the financial interests of my wife's legal practice.

<b>Optional:</b> Additional facts – e.g., why there is a low risk of undue favoritism or improper influence.	
<b>If you cannot confirm this statement, you should recuse yourself.</b>	<b>WRITE AN X TO CONFIRM THE STATEMENT BELOW.</b>  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Taking into account the facts that I have disclosed above, I feel that I can perform my official duties objectively and fairly.
Employee signature:	
Date:	January 21, 2020

**Attach additional pages if necessary.**

**Not elected to your public position – file with your appointing authority.**

**Elected state or county employees – file with the State Ethics Commission.**

**Members of the General Court – file with the House or Senate clerk or the State Ethics Commission.**

**Elected municipal employee – file with the City Clerk or Town Clerk.**

**Elected regional school committee member – file with the clerk or secretary of the committee.**