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FEATURED

## Shiva Ayyadurai, U.S. Senate Candidate in Mass.: 'Country Needs a 21st Century Senator'

GIOVANNI ALBANESE Jr., India-West Staff Reporter May 19, 2017



The man who says he created email, Shiva Ayyadurai, in announcing he is running for the U.S. Senate in Massachusetts in 2018, said the country needs more 21st century individuals in office and less lawyers. (Shiva Ayyadurai/Facebook photo)

Indian American scientist and entrepreneur Shiva Ayyadurai, the man who has claimed he invented email, is vying for a seat in the U.S. Senate in Massachusetts.

Ayyadurai, 53, will challenge the incumbent Democrat, Sen. Elizabeth Warren, for the seat in 2018.

The entrepreneur made the announcement at a Feb. 24 event, announcing he intends to take Warren's place in the Senate to "defend the American Dream," according to a Gateway Pundit report last month. He then tweeted early Feb. 25 about his candidacy (see earlier India-West story here).

Ayyadurai, a Republican, officially filed for his candidacy in the race March 17 and has been publicly supported by former Boston Red Sox pitcher Curt Schilling, who had intended to run for the same seat before backing away.

"India has a caste system, so the fact that my parents even made it here was pretty significant," Ayyadurai, who was 7 in 1970 when he came to the U.S. with his parents, leaving their low-caste classification behind, told **India-West**. "I think that motivated and compelled my interest not only in the political system but also medicine."

Ayyadurai, who has earned a bachelor's, two master's and a doctorate from MIT, is the chairman and chief executive of CytoSolve, a company that provides a revolutionary platform for modeling complex diseases as well as for discovering multi-combination therapeutics.

He added that the need to step into a political race now was a foregone conclusion as he's always been in the political light throughout his life.

"Fighting and trying to get justice is part of who I am and I can't get it out of my DNA," the candidate said, noting that he was part of a committee that exposed corruption in the MIT government while he was attending the institution, among other instances where he has taken government or big corporations head on. "What I saw in Massachusetts was, in my opinion, there's always been three trends in politics (establishment, change and those who talk about change but are advocates of establishment). The latter is where I put Elizabeth Warren."

A contributor to Breitbart news, Ayyadurai noted on his campaign website his gratefulness for the opportunity he has received in the U.S. and his commitment to preserving, protecting and expanding those opportunities for the citizens of Massachusetts and for all Americans.

“That’s the new American Revolution, and I hope you’ll join me in this fight,” Ayyadurai said on his campaign page.

“I know politics, and for me, I felt it was my duty to give back to this country,” he added in a phone interview with **India-West**.

If elected, he wants to improve jobs, specifically through innovation, as well as fixing high drug prices and healthcare.

To date, he is the only declared candidate in the GOP Party. He has begun his campaign by calling Warren a “fake fighter,” using the hashtag on Twitter, #FAKEFIGHTER.

Warren has earned a name fighting for consumers and the working class since she’s been in her Senate seat.

Ayyadurai specifically targeted the incumbent Warren, a University of Houston and Rutgers School of Law graduate who has held the seat since January 2013, in explaining who should and shouldn’t be in office.

“I think it is absolutely ridiculous that people who get a law degree who then are academics think that they should even have this much say in running the affairs of state,” Ayyadurai stressed. “I believe we need a 21<sup>st</sup> century senator — people who understand engineering, science, know how to bill things [create bills] — particularly Massachusetts.”

The self-proclaimed inventor of email added, “What does a lawyer know about robotics,” in compounding his stance that the country and his state in particular need a new voice in the Senate.

“If they don’t know what’s going on in the modern world, they shouldn’t be in there,” he said.

Ayyadurai has tweeted at Warren calling for her to increase federal investment in medical research, saying, “Warren doesn’t REALLY understand Medicine or Innovation. Her mumbo jumbo is just about throwing \$\$’s. Dumb!”

Ayyadurai has emerged as a systems scientist, inventor and entrepreneur since coming to the U.S. nearly four decades ago. He also calls himself the “Real Innovator” and “All American Indian” on his campaign page.

He believes that Washington, D.C., needs true problem solvers as opposed to politicians who “are just screaming at each other.”

The candidate believes he should be elected because he’s “not part of the political machine,” because he’s an American who holds a job, owning seven companies and doesn’t aim to call his elected post his primary work. He claims most elected officials just use their post as a funding vehicle.

“I hope to inspire people,” he told India-West. “In the first 100 days when I get in, we’re going to be proposing solutions through our bills and get people involved around that.”

The Massachusetts U.S. Senate election is Nov. 6, 2018.

