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PRESS RELEASE

# Secretary Ash Names Assistant Secretary of Innovation, Technology, and Entrepreneurship

Cox named Assistant Secretary of Technology, Innovation & Entrepreneurship

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Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development

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**BOSTON, MA** – The Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development has announced Damon Cox as Assistant Secretary of Technology, Innovation & Entrepreneurship.

“I am pleased to welcome Damon to the team,” **said Housing and Economic Development Secretary Jay Ash**. “Damon’s leadership has inspired a new generation of entrepreneurs and spurred community-based

innovation, which will be invaluable as we work to ensure Massachusetts' innovation economy is inclusive and sustainable for the entire state.”

Cox will be focused on all drivers of Massachusetts' technology ecosystem, with emphasis on digital health, advanced manufacturing, cybersecurity, and tech workforce. He will partner with leading tech companies and organizations, accelerators, and incubators across the state.

“Massachusetts' innovation economy is one of the best in the country,” **Cox said.** “I look forward to building on this foundation and collaborating extensively – strengthening existing partnerships and establishing new ones – so everyone in the Commonwealth has access to and thrives in our Innovation Economy.”

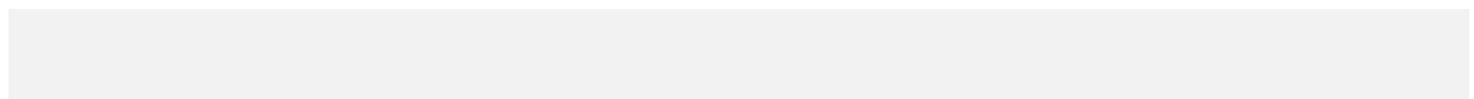
### **About Damon Cox:**

Before joining the Baker-Polito administration, Cox oversaw The Boston Foundation's economic development portfolio of investments in workforce development, innovation, and economic mobility, where he steered capital and support to women and underrepresented minorities starting businesses. In addition, he led a joint effort with MassChallenge, to increase participant diversity, resulting in 30 women- and minority-led start-ups completing rigorous business training and mentorship. Cox held leadership roles at Boston Small Business Competition and Boston Rising, providing capital and technical assistance to aspiring entrepreneurs in Boston's inner-city neighborhoods. Earlier in his career, Cox worked in the music industry, including 10 years at Universal Music Group in New York City. Damon earned a Bachelor of Science degree from The University of North Florida.

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**Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development →**

The Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development promotes vibrant communities, growing businesses, and a strong middle class.

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