



## FROM SEA TO SHINING CIR

### Massachusetts Citizens Initiative Review Bill in the House!

We have exciting news to share! Rep. Jonathan Hecht (Watertown) has introduced a bill in the Massachusetts House to make the Citizens Initiative Review® an official part of Massachusetts elections. The [house bill](#), and a corresponding [senate bill](#) introduced by Sen. Jason Lewis, have tremendous bipartisan support. See stories from [MassLive](#) and [WWLP](#) to hear why Massachusetts voters want the Citizens Initiative Review®.

All of this builds on our successful Massachusetts CIR Pilot last summer. Shout out to our wonderful project partners, Rep. Jon Hecht and Tufts University's Tisch College of Civic Life. Congratulations on this huge step forward! Check out our [Massachusetts CIR page](#) for more info about the pilot and to read the Citizens Statement on Question 4.

**We depend on supporters like you.**

**[Donate to Healthy Democracy today to keep our momentum going!](#)**

### We've received a Bridge Alliance Grant!

We are thrilled to announce that we're part of a winning Bridge Alliance Collective Impact 2017 team!



**BRIDGE**  
**ALLIANCE**

We partnered with the [Davenport Institute for Public Engagement and Civic Leadership](#) at Pepperdine University and [Public Agenda](#) to create a truly collaborative project proposal. Together we will find out if voters can make better-informed

decisions on initiatives and referenda by expanding and testing new Citizen Initiative Review Panels' voter information guides in our California demonstration project. With this support, we will lay the groundwork for a statewide California CIR pilot in 2018.

The [Bridge Alliance](#) is a growing movement of [more than 65 civic action organizations](#) working individually and together to transform the political terrain. They will announce another round of Collective Impact funding in the fall of 2017.

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## HD Bookshelf

What We're Reading



The theme for this month's reading is social media and digital democracy.

Linn Davis just finished Sherry Turkle's [Reclaiming Conversation: The Power of Talk in the Digital Age](#). Read [Part 1](#) of his take on our blog.

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

### RECLAIMING CONVERSATION

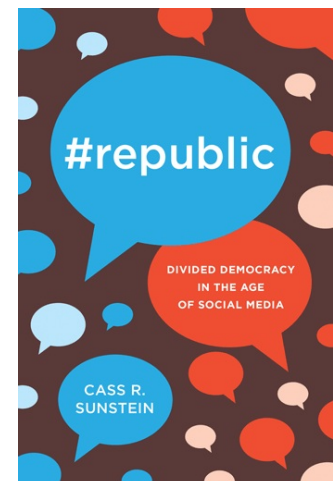
THE POWER OF TALK  
IN A DIGITAL AGE



"A singular voice in the discourse about technology."  
—Jonathan Franzen, *The New York Times Book Review*

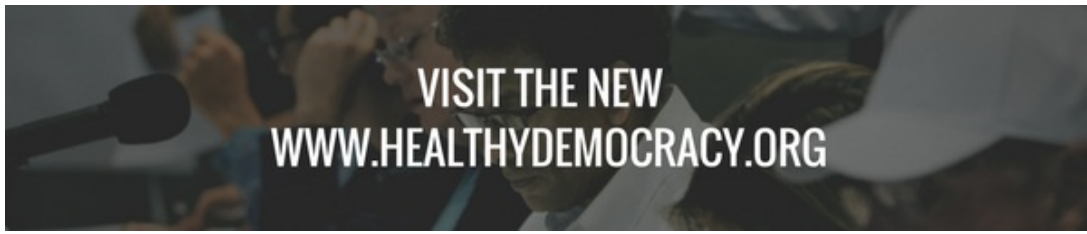
SHERRY TURKLE  
AUTHOR OF *ALONE TOGETHER*

Jessie Conover is only a few chapters in to renowned Harvard Law professor Cass Sunstein's new book [#Republic: Divided Democracy in the Age of Social Media](#), but already can't recommend it enough. Look for her report in next month's newsletter.



More interesting bits:

- [Peter Levine on civic deserts, young voters, and the 2016 election](#)
- [Ashley Trim on the bold experiment of the California CIR](#)
- [Try Chrome extension PolitEcho to see how much of a bubble you live in](#)



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Healthy Democracy is a nonpartisan nonprofit working to elevate citizen voices and improve public discourse.

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