Most recent update: 8/13/21. This tracker will be updated throughout the 192nd General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. For more information on these bills, please contact Marisa Fear, mfear@earlyeducationforall.org

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Early Education and Care

S.362 (H.605) - An Act Providing Affordable And Accessible High Quality Early Education And Care To Promote Child Development And Well-Being And Support The Economy In The Commonwealth

Sponsor: Sen. Jason Lewis (Fifth Middlesex)
Sen. Susan Moran (Plymouth and Barnstable)
Rep. Ken Gordon (21st Middlesex)
Rep. Adrian Madaro (1st Suffolk)

Co-Sponsors: 45 co-sponsors in Senate version
104 co-sponsors in House version

Summary: Establishes a universal system of affordable, high-quality early education and child care for Massachusetts families over a five-year time frame.
For more information, visit CommonStartMA.org.

Progress: Referred

Complete History:
2/16/2021 - HD.1960 - Filed in the House
2/16/2021 - SD.1307 - Filed in the Senate
3/29/2021 - Referred to the Joint Committee on Education

MA Legislature:
https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H605
https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/S362

Hearing: Not Scheduled

H.679 - An Act Relative To High Quality Early Childhood Education

Sponsor: Rep. Alice Hanlon Peisch (14th Norfolk)

Co-Sponsors: 19 co-sponsors

Summary: Makes a number of quality improvements to the early childhood education system through subsidized rate reform, initiatives for the
workforce, plan for preschool expansion, early childhood mental health and addressing suspension and expulsion in early childhood programs.

**Progress:** Referred

**Complete** 2/19/2021 - HD.3638 - Filed in the House

**History:** 3/29/2021- Referred to the Joint Committee on Education

**MA Legislature:**

https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H679

**Hearing:** Not Scheduled

### H.244 - An Act Relative To Family Child Care Disclosures

**Sponsor:** Rep. Claire D. Cronin (11th Plymouth)
Rep. Kate Lipper-Garabedian (32nd Middlesex)

**Co-Sponsors:** 4 co-sponsors

**Summary:** Establishes a system for documentation of liability insurance for family child care providers through the Department of Early Education and Care.

**Progress:** Referred

**Complete** 1/29/2021 - HD.932 - Filed in the House

**History:** 3/29/2021 - Referred to the Joint Committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities

**MA Legislature:**

https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H244

**Hearing:** Not Scheduled

### S.358 (H.3104) - An Act To Preserve Early Education Support For Families

**Sponsor:** Sen. Jason M. Lewis (5th Middlesex)
Rep. Christine Barber (34th Middlesex)

**Co-Sponsors:** 2 co-sponsors in Senate version
2 co-sponsor in House version
Summary: Eliminates the Operation Services Division requirement that mandates contract providers charge EEC the lowest amount for care.

Progress: Hearing Scheduled

Complete

History: 2/1/2021 - SD.481 - Filed in the Senate
3/29/2021- Referred to Joint Committee on Education

1/28/2021- HD.808- Filed in the House
3/29/2021- Referred to the Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight

MA Legislature: https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/S358
https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H3104

Hearing: H.3104 - 06/09/2021 from 10AM-12PM in Virtual Hearing

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**S.320 - An Act Establishing An Online System To Process Background Checks By The Department Of Early Education And Care**

Sponsor: Sen. Diana DiZoglio (First Essex)
Co-Sponsors: None

Summary: Requires the board of EEC to establish an online system to process request and consent forms for background checks.

Progress: Referred

Complete

History: 1/8/2021 - SD.14 - Filed in the Senate
3/29/2021- Referred to the Joint Committee on Education

MA Legislature: https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/S320

Hearing: Not Scheduled

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**H.658 - An Act Creating Assignment Levels In The Department Of Early Education And Care**
Sponsor: Rep. Elizabeth Malia (11th Suffolk)
Co-Sponsors: None

Summary: Ensures that no EEC licensor will have assignment levels in excess of NAEYC standards.

Progress: Referred

Complete History: 2/19/2021 - HD.3873 - Filed in the House

H.224 - An Act Relative To Large Family Child Care Homes

Co-Sponsors: 12 co-sponsors

Summary: Increases licensed capacity in large family child care settings from 10 to 12.

Progress: Referred

Complete History: 2/16/2021 - HD.2081 - Filed in the House

H.4032 - An Act To Enhance Public Early Education Opportunities

Sponsor: Rep. David Henry Argosky Leboeuf (17th Worcester)
Co-Sponsors: 5 co-sponsors
Summary: Establishes, within the department of education, a pilot program for early education and care at public high schools and community colleges.

Progress: Referred

Complete History: 2/19/2021 - HD.3544 - Filed in the House
History: 7/29/2021 - Referred to the Joint Committee on Education

MA Legislature: https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H4032

Hearing: Not Scheduled

### H.639 - An Act To Ensure The Health And Safety Of Children

Sponsor: Rep. Hannah Kane (11th Worcester)
Rep. Carolyn Dykema (8th Middlesex)

Co-Sponsors: 8 co-sponsors

Summary: Requires EEC to develop policies and regulations appropriate for the health and well-being of children in private child care programs (program operated as part of a private, organized educational system) that are not licensed by the Department of Early Education and Care. Requires school committees or superintendents to notify the department of the existence of these programs and for EEC to collect and disseminate information.

Progress: Referred

Complete History: 2/2/2021 - HD.1203 - Filed in the House
History: 3/29/2021 - Referred to Joint Committee on Education

MA Legislature: https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H639

Hearing: Not Scheduled
Social Emotional Learning / Mental Health

**S.301 (H.543) - An Act To Promote Social-Emotional Learning**

**Sponsor:** Sen. Cynthia Stone Creem (First Middlesex and Norfolk)
Rep. Ruth B Balser (12th Middlesex)

**Co-Sponsors:**
- 5 co-sponsors in Senate version
- 8 co-sponsors in House version

**Summary:** Requires administrators and educators have training in strategies to develop students’ social emotional learning competencies, including self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision-making for initial certification and recertification.

**Progress:** Referred

**Complete History:**
- 02/01/2021 - SD.480 - Filed in the Senate
- 01/19/2021 - HD.307 - Filed in the House
- 3/29/2021 - Referred to Joint Committee on Education
- 7/19/2021 - S.301 - Reported favorably by committee and referred to the committee on Senate Ways and Means
- 7/21/2021 - H.543 - Reported favorably by committee and referred to the committee on House Ways and Means

**MA Legislature:**
- https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/S301
- https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H543

**Hearing:**
- 5/20/2021 from 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM in Virtual Hearing

**S.316 (H.544) - An Act To Support Healthy Development Among Preschoolers**

**Sponsor:** Sen. Sal DiDomenico (Middlesex and Suffolk)
Rep. Ruth B. Balser (12th Middlesex)

**Co-Sponsors:**
- 3 co-sponsors in Senate version
- 5 co-sponsors in House version
Summary: Requires EEC to develop performance standards prohibiting or significantly limiting suspension and expulsion in all licensed programs. The standards include benchmark goals for SEL and behavioral development, engagement steps with families, requirements for communicating disciplinary policies, pathways to access TA, requirements for assessing and documenting ongoing threat to the safety of others, and infant and toddler program reporting requirements.

Progress: Referred

Complete 2/18/2021 - SD.1750 - Filed in the Senate
History: 1/28/2021 - HD.770 - Filed in the House
3/29/2021 - Referred to Joint Committee on Education
3/29/2021 - Referred to Joint Committee on Education

MA Legislature: [Link to Bill]

Hearing: Not Scheduled

S.383 (H.695) - An Act Relative To Physical And Social Recess In Schools

Sponsor: Sen. Michael Rush (Norfolk and Suffolk)
Rep. Jon Santiago (9th Suffolk)
Co-Sponsors: 17 co-sponsors in Senate version
36 co-sponsors in House version

Summary: Requires that all children K-5 attending public school receive at least 20 consecutive minutes of supervised, safe, and unstructured free-play recess per day. DESE may not exclude recess from structured learning time requirements or increase the total number of hours required in the school year to meet this provision.

Progress: Hearing Scheduled

Complete 1/28/2021 - SD.320 - Filed in the Senate
History: 2/19/2021 - HD.3376 - Filed in House
3/29/2021 - Referred to Joint Committee on Education

[Link to Bill]
MA Legislature: [link](https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H695)

Hearing: 6/11/2021 from 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM in Virtual Hearing

### H.619 - An Act Relative To School Recess

**Sponsor:** Rep. Bradford Hill (4th Essex)

**Co-Sponsors:** None

**Summary:** Requires that all children K-5 attending public school receive 100 minutes of supervised, safe, unstructured free play recess each week such that there are at least 20 consecutive minutes of recess per day. DESE may not exclude recess from structured learning time requirements or increase the total number of hours required in the school year to meet this provision.

**Progress:** Hearing Scheduled

**Complete History:**
- 1/14/2021 - HD.197 - Filed in the House
- 3/29/2021- Referred to Joint Committee on Education

MA Legislature: [link](https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H619)

Hearing: 6/11/2021 from 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM in Virtual Hearing

### H.106 - An Act Regulating Screen Time In Early And K-12 Education

**Sponsor:** Rep. Patricia A. Duffy (5th Hampden)

**Co-Sponsors:** Kirstin Beatty (Private Citizen)

**Summary:** Requires the Departments of EEC and DESE to develop technology and screen time limits with a public commenting process and annual review.

**Progress:** Referred
Complete History: 2/19/2021 - HD.3346 - Filed in the House
MA Legislature: 3/29/2021- Referred to Joint Committee on Advanced Information Technology, the Internet and Cybersecurity
Hearing: Not Scheduled

**H.1090 - An Act To Improve Child And Adolescent Mental Health Services**

Sponsor: Rep. Sean Garballey (23rd Middlesex)
Rep. Carolyn Dykema (8th Middlesex)
Co-Sponsors: 5 co-sponsors
Summary: Redefines “licensed mental health professional” and the new definition would apply to all policies, contracts, agreements, plans and certificates of insurance issued by the Commonwealth after March 1, 2006.
Progress: Referred
Complete History: 2/12/2021 - HD.1820 - Filed in the House
MA Legislature: 3/29/2021- Referred to Joint Committee on Financial Services
Hearing: Not Scheduled

**S.1297 - An Act To Protect Children’s Mental Health Services**

**H.2115 - An Act Protecting Children’s Mental Health Services**

Sponsor: Sen. John F. Keenan (Norfolk and Plymouth)
Rep. Elizabeth A. Malia (11th Suffolk)
Co-Sponsors: 7 co-sponsors in Senate version
7 co-sponsors in House version
Summary: The Office of the Child Advocate would advise the public and those at the highest levels of state government on how the commonwealth may improve its services to and for children and their families. The child advocate would establish and oversee a statewide children’s mental health ombuds program.

Progress: Hearing Scheduled

Complete

History:

2/18/2021 - SD.1724 - Filed in the Senate

2/19/2021 - HD.4021 - Filed in the House

3/29/2021 - Referred to Joint Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery

MA

Legislature:

https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/S1297

https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H2115

Hearing:

6/16/2021 from 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM in Virtual Hearing

S.1318 - An Act Relative To The Mental Health Of Children In Schools

Sponsor: Sen. John C. Velis (Second Hampden and Hampshire)

Co-Sponsors: Sen. Michael O. Moore (Second Worcester)
Rep. Elizabeth A. Malia (11th Suffolk)

Summary: Allows for absences for behavioral health concerns to be permitted.

Progress: Hearing Scheduled

Complete

History:

2/19/2021 - SD.2388 - Filed in the Senate

3/29/2021 - Referred to Joint Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery

MA

Legislature:

https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/S1318

Hearing:

6/16/2021 from 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM in Virtual Hearing

S.292 - An Act Relative To Mental Health Education
Sponsor: Sen. Nick Collins (First Suffolk)
Co-Sponsors: Sen. Joanne M. Comerford (Hampshire, Franklin, and Worcester)
Rep. Susannah M. Whipps (2nd Franklin)

Summary: Requires physical and mental health education to be taught as a required subject in all grades for all students in the public school system for the purpose of promoting the physical and mental well-being of students.

Progress: Referred

Complete History:
2/18/2021 - SD.1819 - Filed in the Senate
3/29/2021 - Referred to Joint Committee on Education

MA Legislature:
https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/S292

Hearing: Not Scheduled

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S.91 - An Act Relative To Screening For Childhood Trauma

Sponsor: Sen. Cynthia Stone Creem (First Middlesex and Norfolk)
Co-Sponsors: 4 co-sponsors

Summary: Establishes a screening subcommittee of the Childhood Trauma Task Force to review the benefits and risks of utilizing available tools, protocols and best practices for universal screening or trauma assessments for all children in the Commonwealth and children entering foster care. Make recommendations regarding the manner and circumstances under which trauma screening should and should not be used for all children in the Commonwealth and children entering foster care.

Progress: Referred

Complete History:
2/18/2021 - SD.1919 - Filed in the Senate
3/29/2021 - Referral to Joint Committee on Children, Families, and Persons with Disabilities

MA Legislature:
https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/S91
Hearing: Not Scheduled

H.2073 - An Act Establishing A Behavioral Health Workforce Development Trust Fund

            Sen. John J. Cronin (Worcester and Middlesex)

Summary: Establishes the Massachusetts Behavioral Health Workforce Development Trust Fund to create and provide a competitive grant system for supervision of behavioral health providers in-training pursuing licensure and to enhance the professional development opportunities in the mental health field.

Progress: Hearing Scheduled

Complete: 2/16/2021 - HD.2011 - Filed in the House
History: 3/29/2021 - Referred to the Joint Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery

MA Legislature: https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H2073

Hearing: 7/19/2021 from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM in Virtual Hearing

H.3876 - An Act Enhancing Learning In The Early School Years Through A Ban On School Exclusion In Pre-Kindergarten Through 3rd Grade

Co-Sponsors: None

Summary: Draft being worked on by House Counsel.

Progress: Referred
H.567 - An Act Relative To Providing Health Education In Schools

Co-Sponsors: 4 co-sponsors

Summary: Revises the definition of health education to include growth and physical development, physical activity and fitness, nutrition, reproduction and sexuality, mental health, family life, interpersonal relationships, disease prevention and control, safety and injury prevention, substance abuse, consumer health, ecological health and community or public health.

Progress: Referred

Complete History: 2/18/2021 - HD.3068 - Filed in the House
6/15/2021 - Referred to the Joint Committee on Education

Hearing: Not Scheduled

H.566 - An Act Relative To Recess For Elementary School Children

Co-Sponsors: 11 co-sponsors

Complete History: 2/10/2021 - HD.1711 - Filed in the House
3/29/2021 - Referred to the Joint Committee on Education

Hearing: Not Scheduled
Summary: Mandates all elementary children K-5 attending public school receive supervised, safe, and unstructured free-play recess at least 20 consecutive minutes per day.

Progress: Hearing Scheduled

Complete History: 2/10/2021 - HD.1706 - Filed in the House
3/29/2021 - Referred to the Joint Committee on Education

MA Legislature: https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H566

Hearing: 6/11/2021 from 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM in Virtual Hearing
# Birth to Three

## S.136 (H.2231) - An Act Improving Child Eye Health

**Sponsor:**
Rep. Christine Barber (34th Middlesex)
Rep. Sean Garballey (23rd Middlesex)
Sen. Michael O. Moore (Second Worcester)

**Co-Sponsors:**
12 co-sponsors in House version
1 co-sponsor in Senate version

**Summary:**
Calls for DESE, EEC, and other stakeholders to serve on a children’s vision and eye health advisory council. The council would be responsible for implementing and maintaining an eye health registry and advising on matters related to establishing, maintaining, and operating children’s eye health in Massachusetts.

**Progress:**
- Hearing Scheduled

**Complete**
- 2/19/2021 - HD.3559 - Filed in the House
- 2/19/2021 - SD.2170 - Filed in the Senate
- 3/29/2021 - Senate concurred
- 3/29/2021 - H.2231 - Referred to the Joint Committee on Public Health
- 3/29/2021 - S.136 - Referred to the Joint Committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities

**MA Legislature:**
https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H2231

**Hearing:**
5/03/2021 from 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM in Virtual Hearing

## S.101 - An Act Providing Guidelines For Home Visiting Programs

**Sponsor:**
Sen. Diana DiZoglio (First Essex)

**Co-Sponsors:**
None

**Summary:**
The Children’s Trust shall collaborate with public and private child serving agencies to coordinate and deliver evidence-based and promising practices in home visiting to eligible families.
Progress: Referred

Complete 1/8/2021 - SD.8 - Filed in the Senate
History: 3/29/2021 - Referred to the Joint Committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities

MA Legislature: https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/S101

Hearing: Not Scheduled

### S.125 (H.206) - An Act Establishing A Diaper Benefits Pilot Program

**Sponsor:** Sen. Joan B. Lovely (Second Essex)
Rep. Mindy Domb (3rd Hampshire)
Rep. Smitty Pignatelli (4th Berkshire)

**Co-Sponsors:** 13 co-sponsors in Senate version
26 co-sponsors in House version

**Summary:** Establishes a fund administered by DPH to address diaper insufficiency in each region of MA (12 total applicants).

**Progress:** Referred

Complete 2/18/2021 - SD.1747 - Filed in the Senate
History: 2/18/2021 - HD.2972 - Filed in the House
3/29/2021 - Referred to the Joint Committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities

MA Legislature: https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/S125
https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H206

Hearing: Not Scheduled

### S.1499 - An Act Establishing A Newborn Health And Safe Sleep Pilot Program

**Sponsor:** Sen. Patrick M. O’Connor (Plymouth and Norfolk)

**Co-Sponsors:** 3 co-sponsors
Summary: DPH will establish a newborn health and safe sleep pilot program to reduce infant mortality rates in the Commonwealth. The Department will distribute “baby boxes” or other products that encourage safe sleep and require parent education for those who wish to obtain one.

Progress: Hearing Scheduled

Complete 2/9/2021 - SD.893 - Filed in the Senate
History: 4/22/2021 - Referred to the Joint Committee on Public Health

MA Legislature: https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/S1499

Hearing: 5/03/2021 from 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM in Virtual Hearing

S.98 - An Act Establishing A Program To Promote Infant Sleep Safety

Sponsor: Sen. Diana DiZoglio (First Essex)
Co-Sponsors: None

Summary: The Department of Children and Families will develop a safe sleep program that provides infant safety information on its website to new/expecting parents, online training courses, and safe sleep boxes for infants.

Progress: Referred

Complete 1/8/2021 - SD.5 - Filed in the Senate
History: 3/29/2021 - Referred to the Joint Committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities

MA Legislature: https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/S98

Hearing: Not Scheduled
H.280 - An Act Relative To Department Of Transitional Assistance Benefits For Diapers

**Sponsor:** Rep. Steven G. Xiarhos (5th Barnstable)

**Co-Sponsors:** 9 co-sponsors

**Summary:** Requests that the Department of Transitional Assistance pay a sum of $30 per month for the purchase of diapers to a parent for each dependent child.

**Progress:** Referred

**Complete History:**
- 2/16/2021 - HD.2120 - Filed in the House
- 3/29/2021 - Referred to the Joint Committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities

**MA Legislature:** [https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H280](https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H280)

**Hearing:** Not Scheduled

---

S.738 - An Act Protecting Pregnant And Postpartum Patients

**Sponsor:** Sen. Joseph A. Boncore (First Suffolk and Middlesex)

**Co-Sponsors:** None

**Summary:** The Division of Medical Assistance shall establish a program of medical care and assistance for pregnant women and infants who are not otherwise eligible for medical assistance or lack private health insurance coverage for no less than 12 month postpartum.

**Progress:** Referred

**Complete History:**
- 2/19/2021 - SD.2378 - Filed in the Senate
- 3/29/2021 - Referred to the Joint Committee on Health Care Financing

**MA Legislature:** [https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/S738](https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/S738)
Hearing: Not Scheduled

### S.799 (H.1297) - An Act Relative To Expanding Equitable Access To Maternal Postpartum Care

**Sponsor:** Rep. Liz Miranda (5th Suffolk)  
Sen. Joan B. Lovely (Second Essex)  
**Co-Sponsors:** 29 co-sponsors in House version  
9 co-sponsors in Senate version  
**Summary:** Extends MassHealth Standard coverage to pregnant and postpartum residents of the Commonwealth who are eligible through Title XIX and Title XXI of the Social Security Act to 12 months following the end of a pregnancy. It will also be made available to residents who are not otherwise eligible solely due to immigration status.  
**Progress:** Referred  
**Complete History:**  
2/17/2021 - HD.2470 - Filed in the House  
2/18/2021 - SD.1929 - Filed in the Senate  
3/29/2021 - Referred to the Joint Committee on Health Care Financing  
**Legislature:** [https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H1297](https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H1297)  
[https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/S799](https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/S799)
# Funding and Taxation

## HD.4069 - An Act Placing A Healthy Bet On Universal Early Education And Care

| Sponsor: | Rep. Andres Vargas (Third Essex)  
| Co-Sponsors: | 17 co-sponsors |
| Summary: | Includes Common Start bill language to establish a universal early education and care system and provider funding program. This would establish an excise tax on sugar beverages and products where all revenue would be deposited into an early education and care provider funding program. In addition, would legalize sports wagering and no less than sixty percent of all sports wagering revenue would be deposited into the same funding program. |
| Progress: | WITHDRAWN |
| Complete History: | 2/19/2021 - House - Filed in the House |
| MA Legislature: | [https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/HD4069](https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/HD4069) |
| Hearing: | Not Scheduled |

## S.275 - An Act Relative To Early Education Funding

| Sponsor: | Sen. Michael O. Moore (Second Worcester) |
| Co-Sponsors: | 4 co-sponsors |
| Summary: | Appropriates 32.5% from the Education Fund for the purposes of early education to supplement, not offset, any reduction in general appropriations from the previous year. |
| Progress: | Referred |
Complete History:
MA Legislature:
1/28/2021 - SD.304 - Filed in the Senate
3/29/2021 - Senate - Referred to the Joint Committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies

Hearing:
Not Scheduled

S.1878 - An Act Improving The Affordability Of Child Care

Sponsor: Sen. Adam G. Hinds (Berkshire, Hampshire, Franklin and Hampden)
Co-Sponsors: None

Summary: Increases the cap on child care tax deductions. The cap for one individual shall be no lower than $9,600, the cap for two or more individuals shall be no lower than $19,200.

Progress: Referred

Complete History:
MA Legislature:
2/12/2021 - SD.1208 - Filed in the Senate
3/29/2021 - Senate - Referred to the Joint Committee on Revenue

Hearing:
Not Scheduled

S.1946 - An Act Establishing A Tax Credit For Child Care

Sponsor: Sen. Patrick M. O’Connor (Plymouth and Norfolk)
Co-Sponsors: None

Summary: Allows for a child care tax credit of no more than $3,000 per child per year for people who make use of licensed child care providers. Only one taxpayer who files jointly shall be eligible.
Progress: Referred
Complete 2/9/2021 - SD.913 - Filed in the Senate
History: 3/29/2021 - Senate - Referred to the Joint Committee on Revenue

MA Legislature: https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/S1946

Hearing: Not Scheduled

### HD.3756 - An Act Relative To Child Care Tax Credits

Co-Sponsors: Rep. David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf (17th Worcester)
Rep. Michelle M. DuBois (10th Plymouth)
Rep. Nika C. Elugardo (15th Suffolk)
Rep. Vanna Howard (17th Middlesex)

Summary: Draft being worked on by House Counsel.

Progress: Filed
Complete
History: 2/19/2021 - HD.3756 - Filed in the House

MA Legislature: https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/HD3756

Hearing: Not Scheduled

### H.2876 - An Act Establishing A Child Care Tax Credit

Sponsor: Rep. Daniel M. Donahue (16th Worcester)
Co-Sponsors: 5 co-sponsors
Summary: Allows for a child care tax credit of no more than $2,500 per child per year for people who make use of licensed child care providers. Only one taxpayer who file jointly shall be eligible. There shall be a credit for a child care provider based on the average monthly number of children who attend multiplied by an amount which is based on QRIS (level 1 at $0, level 2 at $1,250, level 3 at $2,500, level 4 at $3,750 and level 5 at $5,000).

Progress: Referred

Complete History:
2/1/2021 - HD.1144 - Filed in the House
3/29/2021 - Referred to the Joint Committee on Revenue

MA Legislature: https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H2876

Hearing: Not Scheduled

H.2848 - An Act Establishing A Child Care Tax Credit

Sponsor: Rep. Tackey Chan (2nd Norfolk)
Co-Sponsors: Rep. Michelle M. DuBois (10th Plymouth)

Summary: Allows for a child care tax credit of no more than $2,500 per child per year for people who make use of licensed child care providers. Only one taxpayer who file jointly shall be eligible.

Progress: Referred

Complete History:
2/3/2021- HD.1269 - Filed in the House
3/29/2021 - Referred to the Joint Committee on Revenue

MA Legislature: https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H2848

Hearing: Not Scheduled
### H.2884 - An Act Providing Tax Credits To Certain Employers That Provide Affordable, On-Site Child-Care For Employees

**Sponsor:** Rep. Michelle M. DuBois (10th Plymouth)  
**Co-Sponsors:** None

**Summary:** Establishes a tax credit for business corporations who provide on-site, licensed child care programs. Credit equal to 25% of the qualified child care expenditures, with a maximum of $150,000 per business corporation in one year. EEC shall determine the criteria for eligibility.

**Progress:** Referred  
**Complete:** 2/15/2021 - HD.1947 - Filed in the House  
**History:** 3/29/2021 - Referred to the Joint Committee on Revenue

**MA Legislature:** [https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H2884](https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H2884)

**Hearing:** Not Scheduled

### H.245 - An Act To Provide Relief For The Cost Of Child Care

**Sponsor:** Rep. Jay D. Livingstone (8th Suffolk)  
**Co-Sponsors:** 7 co-sponsors

**Summary:** Increases the employment-related expense credit from $4,800 for one individual to $9,600 and raises $9,600 for two individuals to $19,200.

**Progress:** Referred  
**Complete:** 2/19/2021 - HD.3406 - Filed in the House  
**History:** 3/29/2021 - Referred to the committee on Children, Families, and Persons with Disabilities

**MA Legislature:** [https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H245](https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H245)

**Hearing:** Not Scheduled
**S.317 (H.546) - An Act Relative To Quality Funding For Early Childhood Education And Care Programs**

**Sponsor:** Sen. Sal N. DiDomenico (Middlesex and Suffolk)
Rep. Christine P. Barber (34th Middlesex)

**Co-Sponsors:** 8 co-sponsors in Senate version
14 co-sponsors in House version

**Summary:** Requires the state to match annual federal funding and establish rates of payment for subsidized child care which meet the costs incurred by providers. The Department of EEC will establish and distribute foundation awards as a quality add-on to the subsidy rate to be used for educator compensation and credentialing.

**Progress:** Referred

**Complete**
2/18/2021 - SD.1877 - Filed in the Senate
2/9/2021 - HD.1541 - Filed in the House
3/29/2021 - Referred to the Joint Committee on Education

**History:**
[https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/S317](https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/S317)

**MA Legislature:**
[https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H546](https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H546)

**Hearing:** Not Scheduled

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**S.339 - An Act Creating A Disproportionate Share Childcare Provider Fund**

**Sponsor:** Sen. Adam Gomez (Hampden)

**Co-Sponsors:** None

**Summary:** Establishes a new Disproportionate Share Childcare Provider Fund to provide supplemental funding to certain eligible provider agencies which care for a disproportionate number of high risk children. No less than 50% of licensing fees collected by EEC shall be deposited into this fund.

**Progress:** Referred
S.119 (H.208) - An Act Concerning Public Assistance For Working Families And The Creation Of A Pilot Program To Address The Impacts Of The Cliff Effect

Sponsor: Sen. Eric P. Lesser (First Hampden and Hampshire)
Rep. Patricia A. Duffy (5th Hampden)
Rep. Carlos Gonzalez (10th Hampden)
Co-Sponsors: 9 co-sponsors in Senate version
14 co-sponsors in House version

Summary: Establishes a pilot program to mitigate cliff effects for 100 Western MA participants. Participants must be eligible for the Work Opportunity Tax Credit. The Economic Development Council and Working Cities Group will develop and oversee the pilot program. It will be a three year program. The goal of the program is to conduct a full test of this model that facilitates, encourages and supports participants to enter, reenter, and remain in the workforce.

Progress: Referred

Complete History:
2/9/2021 - SD.1025 - Filed in the Senate
2/10/2021 - HD.1701 - Filed in the House
3/29/2021 - Referred to the Joint Committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities

MA Legislature:
https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/S119
https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H208

Hearing: Not Scheduled
S.1912 - An Act To Make Childcare And Preschool More Affordable For Working Families

Sponsor: Sen. Jason M. Lewis (Fifth Middlesex)
Co-Sponsors: Sen. Susan L. Moran (Plymouth and Barnstable)

Summary: Allows refundable tax credit of $2,000 for each child under 3 by the end of the year and $1,500 for each child 3-5 by the end of the year.

Progress: Referred

Complete History:
2/1/2021 - SD.467 - Filed in the Senate
3/29/2021 - Referred to the Joint Committee on Revenue

MA Legislature: https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/S1912

Hearing: Not Scheduled
Pre-K and Kindergarten

S.319 - An Act Ensuring High Quality Pre-Kindergarten Education

Sponsor: Sen. Sal DiDomenico (Middlesex and Suffolk)
Co-Sponsors: 5 co-sponsors

Summary: Creates a grant program to support the continued implementation of high-quality preschool programs within our mixed delivery system, modeled after the PEG and CPPI grant programs, for preschool-age children (between the ages of 2 years and 9 months to kindergarten eligible).

Progress: Referred

Complete History: 2/19/2021 - SD.2264 - Filed in the Senate
3/29/2021 - Referred to Joint Committee on Education

MA Legislature: https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/S319

Hearing: Not Scheduled

H.569 - An Act Relative To Universal Full-Day Kindergarten

Co-Sponsors: Rep. David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf (17th Worcester)
Rep. Carol A. Doherty (3rd Bristol)

Summary: Mandates all school districts offer a full-time kindergarten program subject to the same minimum requirements for length of school day and number of days.

Progress: Referred
H.701 - An Act Providing For Universal Pre-K For 3- To 5-Year-Olds

Sponsor: Rep. Danillo A. Sena (37th Middlesex)
Co-Sponsors: 8 co-sponsors

Summary: The department of EEC shall administer a universal pre-k program for children 2 years 9 months to 5 years (not enrolled or attended kindergarten) within public schools or public charter schools. Creates a pre-k advisory council to identify resources needed for implementation, ensure support for teaching staff and establish minimum salary requirements.

Progress: Referred

Complete 2/18/2021 - HD.3186 - Filed in the House
History: 3/29/2021 - Referred to Joint Committee on Education
MA Legislature: https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H569

Hearing: Not Scheduled

H.550 - An Act To Achieve Universal Pre-Kindergarten

Sponsor: Rep. Antonio F.D. Cabral (13th Bristol)
Co-Sponsors: 15 co-sponsors
Summary: Establishes a Universal Pre-Kindergarten Commission to study how to expand universal pre-kindergarten to every child in the Commonwealth. Transfers the remaining balance in the Convention Center Fund to EEC for the purpose of expanding pre-kindergarten each year.

Progress: Referred

Complete History: 2/12/2021 - HD.1867 - Filed in the House
3/29/2021 - Referred to the Joint Committee on Education

MA Legislature: https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H550

Hearing: Not Scheduled

S.288 - An Act Relative To Universal Prekindergarten Access

Sponsor: Sen. Sonia Chang-Diaz (Second Suffolk)
Co-Sponsors: 5 co-sponsors

Summary: Creates the High Quality Pre-Kindergarten Expansion grant program through EEC to bring to scale a high-quality, mixed delivery system program for all children 2 years 9 months to the age a child becomes eligible for kindergarten. Among other requirements, prioritizes PEG and CPPI grantees. Requires all school districts to submit a plan by 2024 to provide ongoing access to age-appropriate early education for all residing within the district.

Progress: Referred

Complete History: 1/15/2021 - SD.150 - Filed in the Senate
3/29/2021 - Referred to the Joint Committee on Education

MA Legislature: https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/S288

Hearing: Not Scheduled
H.539 - An Act Relative To Changing The Minimum Age Requirement For Kindergarten

Sponsor: Rep. Brian M. Ashe (2nd Hampden)  

Summary: Changes the mandatory minimum age for attendance of kindergarten to 5 years of age for attendance in the school year beginning in September of the calendar year in which he or she attains the age of 5.

Progress: Referred

Complete History: 1/13/2021 - HD.194 - Filed in the House  
3/29/2021 - Referred to the Joint Committee on Education

MA Legislature: https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H539

Hearing: Not Scheduled

H.702 - An Act Providing Pre-K Education For 4 Year-Old Children In Gateway Communities

Sponsor: Rep. Alan Silvia (7th Bristol)  
Co-Sponsors: 4 co-sponsors

Summary: Requires the board and DESE to develop a program for universal pre-kindergarten education in gateway municipalities for all children 4 and older (may be made available to 3 and older) who qualify for free or reduced price lunch if the child attended public school.

Progress: Referred

Complete History: 1/21/2021 - HD.419 - Filed in the House  
3/29/2021 - Referred to the Joint Committee on Education
H.549 - An Act Relative To Compulsory Full-Day Kindergarten

Sponsor: Rep. Antonio F. D. Cabral (13th Bristol)
Co-Sponsors: 13 co-sponsors

Summary: The board shall establish the permissible and mandatory ages for school attendance provided that each child be required to attend a full-day educational program at kindergarten age.

Progress: Referred

Complete History: 2/12/2021 - HD.1866 - Filed in the House
3/29/2021 - Referred to Joint Committee on Education

H.698 - An Act Relative To Tuition-Free Universal Full-Day Kindergarten

Sponsor: Rep. Adam J. Scanlon (14th Bristol)

Co-Sponsors: 9 co-sponsors

Summary: Establishes a Universal Full-Day Kindergarten Trust Fund administered through DESE to provide financial aid to school districts to implement and maintain tuition-free universal full-day kindergarten programs.

Progress: Referred
Complete History: 2/18/2021 - HD.3071 - Filed in the House
3/29/2021 - Referred to Joint Committee on Education

MA Legislature: https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H698

Hearing: Not Scheduled
Workforce and Professional Development

H.681 - An Act Relative To Teacher Preparation And Certification

Sponsor: Rep. Alice Hanlon Peisch (14th Norfolk)
Co-Sponsors: 13 co-sponsors

Summary: Makes a number of improvements for teacher preparation and certification including, training in strategies related to culturally responsive, anti-racist pedagogy and practices, evidenced-based curricula, and required reporting including, program evaluation, screening practices. Creates a one-year pilot program for teacher apprenticeship in high-needs districts. Requires DESE to conduct a study on potential initiatives to incentivize diverse and highly effective educators to work in high needs schools and districts.

Progress: Referred
Complete 2/19/2021 - HD.3640 - Filed in the House
History: 3/29/2021 - Referred to the Joint Committee on Education

MA Legislature: https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H681

Hearing: Not Scheduled

S.285 (H.675) - An Act Addressing Racial And Cultural Bias Training In Educator Professional Development

Sponsor: Sen. Harriette L. Chandler (First Worcester)
Rep. Steven C. Owens (29th Middlesex)

Co-Sponsors: 2 co-sponsors in Senate version
14 co-sponsors in House version

Summary: Requires all school districts to adopt and implement a professional development plan, to be updated annually, with a number of requirements.
Progress: Referred

Complete History:
2/16/2021 - SD.1319 - Filed in the Senate
2/17/2021 - HD.2467 - Filed in the House
3/29/2021 - Referred to the Joint Committee on Education

MA Legislature:
https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/S285
https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H675

Hearing: Not Scheduled

H.628 - An Act Relative To Pre-School Teachers

Co-Sponsors: Rep. Mathew J. Muratore (1st Plymouth)
Rep. Steven S. Howitt (4th Bristol)

Summary: Establishes a special commission to study and report on the potential requirement of a bachelor’s degree for early education professionals and whether that would lead to more effective early education classrooms. Shall study whether teacher education is correlated with quality programs, factors that contribute to quality early educational programs, how to encourage PD for teachers, and improving accessibility to higher education for early education professionals.

Progress: Referred

Complete History:
1/21/2021 - HD.433 - Filed in the House
3/29/2021 - Referred to the Joint Committee on Education

MA Legislature:
https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H628

Hearing: Not Scheduled
Other

S.1841 (H.2871) - An Act To Increase Family Stabilization Through The Earned Income Tax Credit

           Rep. Andres X. Vargas (3rd Essex)
           Sen. Sal N. DiDomenico (Middlesex and Suffolk)

Co-Sponsors: 28 co-sponsors in House version
              3 co-sponsors in Senate

Summary: Creates a guaranteed minimum income (GMI) to ensure that everyone in the Commonwealth can attain a basic standard of living. Creating a GMI program in Massachusetts will be accomplished by enhancing the state’s Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) so that it covers more households and delivers larger cash benefits.

Progress: Referred

Complete History:
2/16/2021 - HD.1992 - Filed in the House
2/18/2021 - SD. 1886 - Filed in the Senate
3/29/2021 - Referred to the Joint Committee on Revenue

MA Legislature:
https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H2871
https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/S1841

Hearing: Not Scheduled

S.1852 - An Act Providing A Guaranteed Minimum Income To All Massachusetts Families

Sponsor: Sen. James B. Eldridge (Middlesex and Worcester)

Co-Sponsors: 5 co-sponsors

Summary: Creates a guaranteed minimum income (GMI) to ensure that everyone can attain a basic standard of living. Enhancing EITC to cover more
households and deliver increased benefits. Increase state match rate from 30% to 50%. Establish minimum 2,400 credit for extremely low income households. Extend the GMI to middle income families who are currently ineligible (up to $75,000). Extend tax credit to groups of people who are usually left out, more frequent payments and communications outreach campaigns through VITA sites.

Progress: Referred
Complete: 1/14/2021 - SD.140 - Filed in the Senate
History: 3/29/2021 - Referred to the Joint Committee on Revenue

MA Legislature: https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/S1852

Hearing: Not Scheduled

S.899 - An Act Creating The Home Works Program

Sponsor: Sen. Joan B. Lovely (Second Essex)
Co-Sponsors: Rep. Mathew J. Muratore (1st Plymouth)

Summary: Codifies the HomeWorks program for children 5-14 in Emergency Assistance Motels and Shelters to be able to attend out of school time and camp programs.

Progress: Referred
Complete: 2/18/2021 - SD.1937 - Filed in the Senate
History: 3/29/2021 - Referred to the Joint Committee on Housing

MA Legislature: https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/S899

Hearing: Not Scheduled
**S.791 (H.1312) - An Act To Promote Public Health Through The Prevention And Wellness Trust Fund**

**Sponsor:**
Sen. Jason Lewis (Fifth Middlesex)  
Rep. Jon Santiago (9th Suffolk)

**Co-Sponsors:**
4 co-sponsors in Senate  
9 co-sponsors in House

**Summary:**
The Prevention and Wellness Trust Fund supported nine communities to do clinical to community linkage. Legislation reestablishes this program with funding.

**Progress:**
Not Referred

**Complete History:**
2/11/2021 - SD.1093 - Filed in the Senate  
2/19/2021 - HD.3399 - Filed in the House  
3/29/2021 - Referred to the Joint Committee on Health Care Financing

**MA Legislature:**
[https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/S791](https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/S791)  
[https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H1312](https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H1312)

**Hearing:**
Not Scheduled

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**S.314 (H.714) - An Act Relative To Universal School Meals**

**Sponsor:**
Sen. Sal DiDomenico (Middlesex and Suffolk)  
Rep. Andres X. Vargas (3rd Essex)

**Co-Sponsors:**
39 co-sponsors in Senate version  
91 co-sponsors in House version

**Summary:**
Aims to get universal school meals in public schools. The Commonwealth would need to opt-in to the federal requirements then pay the portion the federal government does not pay.

**Progress:**
Not Referred
H.3187 - An Act To Establish A Massachusetts Children’s Cabinet

Co-Sponsors: Rep. Colleen M. Garry (36th Middlesex)

Summary: Establishes a children’s cabinet in the executive office of the Governor to ensure that the public policy relating to children and youth is developed to promote interdepartmental collaboration and program implementation so that all services are planned, managed and delivered in a holistic and integrated manner.

Progress: Referred

Complete History: 2/1/2021 - SD.519 - Filed in the Senate
3/29/2021 - Referred to Joint Committee on Education

Hearing: Not Scheduled

S.2040 (H.3199) - An Act Relative To Language Access And Inclusion

Sponsor: Sen. Sal DiDomenico (Middlesex and Suffolk)
Rep. Adrian C. Madaro (1st Suffolk)
Rep. Carlos González (10th Hampden)
Co-Sponsors: 17 co-sponsors in Senate version
38 co-sponsors in House version

Summary: Standardizes and enforces language access in state agencies, focusing on nine essential state agencies, expanding to include executive offices in coming years. The initial nine include EEC, DESE, DPH, and DCF. Agencies must develop language access plans, populations served and needs in the community. Must create a Language Access Coordinator to ensure compliance. The Advisory Board would submit biannual reports to the Legislature.

Progress: Referred

Complete 2/19/2021 - SD.2251 - Filed in the Senate
History: 2/19/2021 - HD.3674 - Filed in the House
3/29/2021 - Referred to the Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight

MA Legislature: https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/S2040

S.289 - An Act Relative To Dropout Prevention And Re-Engagement

Sponsor: Sen. Sonia Chang-Diaz (Second Suffolk)
Co-Sponsors: 6 co-sponsors

Summary: Mandates all public schools K-12 use the early warning indicator index system.

Progress: Hearing Scheduled

Complete 1/15/2021 - SD.152 - Filed in the Senate
History: 3/29/2021 - Referred to the Joint Committee on Education

MA Legislature: https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/S289
### H.565 - An Act To Ensure Equitable Access To Education, Including Special Education Services, For All Students In Massachusetts

**Sponsor:** Rep. Marjorie C. Decker (25th Middlesex)
**Co-Sponsors:** 28 co-sponsors

**Summary:** Requires DESE to address educational inequities through a data-driven approach.

**Progress:** Hearing Scheduled

**Complete History:**
- 2/5/2021 - HD.1433 - Filed in the House
- 3/29/2021 - Referred to the Joint Committee on Education

**MA Legislature:** [https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H565](https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H565)

### H.200 - An Act Providing Immediate Childcare Assistance To Homeless Families

**Sponsor:** Rep. Marjorie Decker (25th Middlesex)
**Co-Sponsors:** 30 co-sponsors

**Summary:** Families placed in temporary emergency assistance shelters and receiving TAFCD would be eligible for homeless child care assistance. Children should be screened for developmental risk factors and/or delays.

**Progress:** Referred
Complete History:
2/17/2021 - HD.2528 - Filed in the House
3/29/2021 - Referred to the Joint Committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities

MA Legislature:
https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H200

Hearing:
Not Scheduled