

**290 SECTION 32.** There shall be an **Early Education and Care Workforce Council**, the members of  
291 which shall make recommendations on improving and enhancing professional development and  
292 higher education opportunities necessary for the growth and stability of a high quality early  
293 education and care workforce in the Commonwealth.

294 The workforce council shall include, at minimum: 3 members to be appointed by the speaker of  
295 the house; 1 member to be appointed by the minority leader of the house of representatives; 3  
296 members to be appointed by the president of the senate; 1 member to be appointed by the  
297 minority leader of the senate; the commissioner of higher education, or a designee; and 1 person  
298 from each of the following organizations: Massachusetts Association of Early Education and  
299 Care, the executive office of community colleges, the president of a community college or a  
300 designee, the Massachusetts Head Start Association, Inc., the Massachusetts Association for the  
301 Education of Young Children, Inc., the Massachusetts Association of Early Childhood Teacher  
302 Educators, the Massachusetts Business Alliance for Education, Inc., Strategies for Children, Inc.,  
303 the Alliance of Massachusetts YMCAs, Inc., the United Way of Massachusetts Bay, Inc., the  
304 Massachusetts Business Roundtable, the Alliance for Business Leadership, Inc., a representative  
305 of SEIU Local 509, and a representative of a family child care provider chosen by the  
306 commissioner of early education and care.

307 Additional council members may be added to the workforce council upon the recommendation  
308 of the commissioner of early education and care and approval by the board of early education  
309 and care. All additional appointees shall have a special expertise or interest in early childhood  
310 education and workforce training and professional development and shall include a mix of  
311 representatives of the early childhood community, the civic, labor, and business communities,  
312 academics, teachers, social service providers, and health care providers.

313 Members shall not, by virtue of their membership, be considered state employees under chapter  
314 268A. The members of the council shall serve without compensation but may be reimbursed,  
315 subject to appropriation, for expenses necessarily and reasonably incurred in the performance of  
316 their responsibilities. Members shall be appointed for a term of 3 years. No member shall serve  
317 for more than 2 consecutive terms. The council shall hold its first meeting not later than 60 days  
318 after the effective date of this act and shall meet not fewer than 4 times annually.

319 The commissioner of early education and care shall consult with the council on the establishment  
320 of professional development and higher education opportunities for early educators that focuses  
321 on the unique needs and challenges of providing career advancement and support for the early  
322 education and care workforce.

323 The council may review and offer comments on any rules or regulations before promulgation by  
324 the board, and may, from time to time, make recommendations to the board that it considers  
325 appropriate for changes and improvements in early education and care professional development,  
326 training, and career support.