



ESSEX COUNTY CSW LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES 2023-2024

An Act to increase access to disposable menstrual products (IAM Bill) ([S. 1381/H. 534](#))

Lead Sponsors: Rep Jay D. Livingstone, Rep Christine P. Barber & Sen Jehlen

Coalition: [Massachusetts Menstrual Equity](#)

Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Public Health

This bill would provide access to free menstrual products to all menstruating individuals in schools, shelters & prisons.

An Act providing affordable and accessible high-quality early education and care to promote child development and well-being and the economy in the Commonwealth ([S. 301/H. 489](#))

Lead Sponsors: Sen Jason M. Lewis and Reps Kenneth I. Gordon and Adrian C. Madaro

Coalition: Common Start

Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Education

This bill would establish a universal system of affordable, high-quality education and childcare for all Massachusetts families. The system would cover early education and care for children age birth through 5, after and out of school time for children age 5-12, and children with special needs through age 15.

An Act requiring one fair wage ([S. 1188/H. 1872](#))

Lead Sponsors: Sen Patricia D. Jehlen and Reps Tricia Farley-Bouvier and Samantha Montaña

Coalition: One Fair Wage

Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Labor and Workforce Development

This bill would raise the minimum wage for tipped workers from \$4.35 to \$13.95. This increase would bring thousands of workers out of poverty, reduce sexual harassment, and decrease the wage gap between male and female tipped workers.

An Act to ensure gender parity and racial and ethnic diversity on public boards and commissions ([S. 2016](#))

Leader Sponsors: Sen Jason M. Lewis

Status: Referred to Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight

This bill would promote diversity in leadership and governance that broadly reflects the demographics of our Commonwealth. The composition of each appointed public board and commission in the Commonwealth shall broadly reflect that of the general public.

An Act supporting parents running for public office ([S. 422/H. 669](#))

Lead Sponsors: Sen Patricia D. Jehlen and Reps Mike Connolly and Joan Meschino

Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Election Laws

This bill would allow for individuals to use campaign funds for childcare expenses, clarifying that childcare expenses are not considered personal expenses. This bill seeks to support parents running for public office.