



MASSACHUSETTS COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
Priority Legislation for 2019-2020 Legislative Session

Priority Legislation

An Act Supporting Working Parents Who Choose to Run for Public Office (S.408/H.639)

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

(Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Election Laws on 1/22/2019)

Many working parents are discouraged from running for public office because of financial reasons. This bill would clarify that child care expenses for times while campaigning are not considered personal expenses.

An Act Requiring One Fair Wage (S.1082/H.1617)

Lead Sponsors: Sen. Patricia Jehlen and Rep. Tricia Farley-Bouvier

(Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Labor and Workforce Development on 1/22/2019)

The proposed bill would raise the minimum wage to \$13.95 or the prevailing minimum wage every year after 2027 for tipped workers in Massachusetts. In doing so, it would bring thousands of workers out of poverty, reduce sexual harassment in the workplace, and decrease the wage gap between male and female tipped workers.

An Act to Require Sexual Harassment Training (S.1057/H.1345)

Lead Sponsors: Sen. Cynthia Creem and Rep. Christine Barber

(Status: S.1057 - Referred to Joint Committee on Labor and Workforce Development; H.1345 – Referred to Joint Committee on the Judiciary 1/22/2019)

This bill would require Massachusetts employers to provide workplace-specific sexual harassment training that is live and interactive, as well as conduct climate surveys to identify risk factors and gauge the program's effectiveness. This prevention-based training will promote respect in the workplace and avoid unlawful harassment, rather than simply focus on escaping liability.

Other Endorsed Legislation

Sexual Harassment Bills

An Act Promoting Equality and Respect in the Legislature (S.1898/H.3572)

Lead Sponsors: Sen. Rebecca Rausch and Rep. Lindsay Sabadosa

(Status: S.1898: Referred to Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight (on 1/22/2019); H.3572 – Discharged to Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight (on 4/4/2019)

An Act Relative to the Defense Against Abuse Waivers (S.1049/H.1625)

Lead Sponsors: Sen. Harriette Chandler and Rep. Kenneth Gordon

(Status: Hearing scheduled for 4/09/2019)

An Act Requiring Sexual Misconduct Surveys at Institutions of Higher Education (S.736/H.1208)

Lead Sponsors: Sen. William Brownsberger and Rep. Lori Ehrlich

(Status: Hearing scheduled for 4/09/2019)

An Act Relative to Sexual Violence on Higher Education Campuses (S.764/H.1209)

Lead Sponsors: Sen. Michael Moore and Rep. Tricia Farley-Bouvier

(Status: Hearing scheduled for 4/09/2019)

An Act Relative to the Scheduling of Employees (S.1110/HD.3384)

Lead Sponsors: Sen. Marc Pacheco and Rep. Sean Garballey

(Status: S.1110 - Hearing scheduled for 4/09/2019)

An Act Relative to Healthy Youth (S.263/H.410)

Lead Sponsors: Sen. Sal DiDomineco and Reps. James O'Day and Paul Brodeur

(Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Education on 1/22/2019)

An Act to End Child Marriage in Massachusetts (S.24/H.1478)

Lead Sponsors: Sen. Harriette Chandler and Rep. Kay Khan

(Status: S.24 - Hearing scheduled for 4/09/2019; H.1478 Referred to Joint Committee on the Judiciary on 1/22/2019)

An Act to Protect Girls from Genital Mutilation (S.834/H.3332)

Lead Sponsors: Sen. Joseph Boncore and Reps. Natalie Higgins and Jay Livingstone

(Status: Referred to Joint Committee on the Judiciary 1/22/2019)

An Act to Increase Access to Disposable Menstrual Products in Prisons, Homeless Shelters, and Public Schools (S.1274/H.1959)

Lead Sponsors: Sen. Patricia Jehlen and Reps. Jay Livingstone and Christine Barber

(Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Public Health 1/22/2019)