



# MASSCAP

Massachusetts Association for Community Action  
*Creating Opportunity. Changing Lives. Ending Poverty.*

## Public Policy Priorities

*Our public policy priorities support our mission to collectively advocate along with the state's 23 Community Action Agencies to advance economic, racial, and social justice and to create communities where everyone thrives. Every day we work together to help MA residents living with low incomes to stabilize their lives and achieve economic prosperity.*



## Our FY26 Budget Priorities



### **Creating a Foundation for Economic Opportunity**

- Address inequality, promote opportunity and end poverty by supporting Community Action Agencies (7004-xxxx currently 7002-0025) - \$7.5M

*See attached fact sheet for information about how Community Action Agencies are investing this resource to support our vulnerable friends and neighbors and strengthen communities.*



### **Bridging the Wage Gap**

- Resources for Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) (1201-0100) - \$1.5M
- Expand the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC): Include ITIN Holders, Remove the Dependent Cap



### **Strengthening Families through Affordable and Accessible Early Education and Care**

- Support for Early Education Rate Reserve (3000-1042) - \$45M
- Support for Income-Eligible Child Care (3000-4060) – Embed Early Education Workforce Personal Child Care \$20M
- Support for Head Start (3000-5000) - \$20M
- Support for C3 Grants (3000-1045, 1596-2410) and Maintain Existing Tier Language - \$75M
- Support for Child Care Resource Referral Access Management in Early Education Program (3000-2000) – \$23M

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## Our FY26 Legislative Priorities

### *Bridging the Wage Gap and Building Wealth*

- An Act supporting families through enhanced tax credits, filed by Senator Sal DiDomenico ([SD.1772](#)) and Representative Marjorie Decker ([HD.3269](#))
- An Act to reduce poverty by expanding the EITC and the child and family tax credit filed by Senator Eldridge ([SD.1380](#))
- An Act addressing the racial wealth gap *filed by Senator Paul Feeney, Representative Andres Vargas, and Treasurer Deborah Goldberg* ([SD.2111](#), [HD.2031](#), [H.48](#))
- An Act establishing a diaper benefits pilot program *filed by Senator Joan Lovely, Representative Mindy Domb and Representative Simon Cataldo* ([SD.1378](#), [HD.2205](#))
- An Act requiring financial education in schools, *filed by Senator Patrick M. O'Connor, Representative Kate Lipper-Garabedian, and Treasurer Deborah Goldberg* ([SD.1175](#), [HD.931](#), [H.46](#))

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