

Legislation Endorsed by the Massachusetts AFL-CIO
As of March 8th, 2017

Bill Title	Docket #	Lead Sponsors	Summary
WAGES & ENFORCEMENT			
An Act to Prevent Wage Theft and Promote Employer Accountability	S.999/H.1033	Senator Sal N. DiDomenico / Representative Aaron Michlewitz	Holds lead contractors legally liable when they subcontract work to companies that violate wage and hour laws, and provides the AG with the authority to issue Stop Work Orders at worksites with ongoing wage violations.
An Act to improve the Commonwealth's economy with a strong minimum wage and a strong tipped minimum wage	S.1004/HD.2719	Senator Ken Donnelly / Representative Dan Donahue	Raises the MA minimum wage to \$15/hour by 2021, phases out the sub-minimum wage for tipped workers over 8 years.
An Act Protecting Workers' Wages from Arbitrary Recoupment of Overpayments	S.2095	Representatives Dylan Fernandes & Michael Connolly	Provides safeguards and notice requirements when employers attempt to recoup overpayments of wages.
An Act Relative to the Equality of Sunday Pay for Retail Workers	S.1053/H.1042	Senator James E. Timilty / Representative RoseLee Vincent	Requires e-commerce retailers to pay time and one half on Sundays; the same as brick and mortar stores within the Commonwealth.
An Act relative to enhanced enforcement of civil penalties	S.997	Senator Sal N. DiDomenico	Provides the Attorney General the discretion to proceed directly to Superior Court with civil wage violation cases.
An Act relative to compliance with the prevailing wage laws of the Commonwealth	H.1002	Representative Tackey Chan	Protects workers engaged in fabrication of materials for prevailing wage projects regardless of location by ensuring that they are paid the same wage as their counterparts on the same job engaged in the same trade onsite.
HEALTH AND SAFETY / INJURED WORKER BENEFITS			
An Act to Further Define Standards of Employee Safety	S.1033/HD.3060	Senator Marc Pacheco / Representative	Makes OSHA the consistent health and safety standard for all MA workers by extending protections to employees of municipalities and quasi-state agencies.

		James O'Day	
An Act ensuring the safety of residents, first responders, and gas workers	S.1838	Senator Sal N. DiDomenico	Requires that gas companies ensure all gas gates and valves are located, identified, cleared, operational and accessible, in clear sight at ground level, before any blasting work or planned excavation for maintenance or construction involving any gas mains or services
An Act relative to public safety in hoisting regulations	S.1330/H.1240	Senator Barbara L'Italien/Representative Linda Campbell	Ensures that replacement workers for utility companies or contractors that are hired during a strike or lockout have a valid MA hoisting license.
An Act relative to safe patient handling in certain health facilities	S.1167/H.1144	Senator Harriette Chandler / Representative Claire Cronin	Requires health care facilities to establish a safe patient handling committee to design and recommend the process for implementing a safe patient handling program and to oversee the implementation of the program.
An Act requiring health care employers to develop and implement programs to prevent workplace violence	S.1374/H.1007	Senator James Timilty / Representative Denise Garlick	Requires health care employers to conduct, in conjunction with employees, an annual risk assessment considering all factors which may put any of the employees at risk of workplace violence such as assaults or homicide.
An Act relative to public higher education campus police officers injured in the line of duty	S.1444	Senator Marc Pacheco	Provides same line of duty injury benefits provided to police officers and firefighters
An Act providing fair and equitable line of duty death benefits for public employees	S.1445 / HD.654	Senator Marc Pacheco / Representative Jay Livingstone	Provides the families of all public-sector workers with the same benefits provided to public safety workers in the event the worker is killed in the line of duty through injury or accident
An Act relative to corrections officers injured in the line of duty	S.1443	Senator Marc Pacheco	Provides same line of duty injury benefits provided to police officers and firefighters
An Act relative to disability or death caused by contagious diseases, presumption	H.1400	Representative Nick Collins	Establishes a rebuttable presumption that any uniformed member of a police department, fire department or municipal emergency services department suffering from a contagious disease resulting in disability or death, contracted same in the line of duty
An Act Relative to Parkinson's Disease Disability/Death in Firefighters	H.1455	Representative John Velis	This bill would extend accidental disability benefits to firefighters who are diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease by creating a presumption that the illness was incurred in the line of duty. Similar to the Cancer presumptive and heart presumptive.

An Act relative to disability benefits	HD 2154	Representative Dan Cahill	This bill would clear up the 111F gap our members have when an injury on duty occurs. Allowing them to be placed on 111F benefits immediately following the injury.
PUBLIC EMPLOYEE AND RETIREE HEALTHCARE			
An Act Limiting Out-of-Pocket Health Expenses	HD.2867	Representative Paul Mark	Caps annual out-of-pocket healthcare expenses at \$2,500 for individuals and \$5,000 for families enrolled in GIC health insurance plans.
An Act Relative to Group Insurance Costs for Certain Public Retirees	S.1474	Senator James Timilty	Caps annual out-of-pocket healthcare expenses at \$2,500 for individuals and \$5,000 for families enrolled in GIC health insurance plans.
An Act Relative to Group Insurance Commission Premium Contributions	S.1407/HD 2848	Senator Ken Donnelly / Representative Paul Mark	Equalizes all state employees at a 20% health insurance premium contribution.
An Act Regarding the Group Insurance Commission	S.1406 / HD.2935	Senator Ken Donnelly / Representative Dan Cullinane	Seeks to make representation on the Group Insurance Commission more fair by adding a seat for labor and shifting two seats from the Governor to legislative leadership
An Act to provide fair and affordable public retiree benefits	S.1481	Senator James E. Timilty	Increases the annual cost-of-living adjustment for retired state employees to \$480 from \$390 / Sets the retiree's health insurance premium contribution share at the percentage the employee paid when he or she retired
TRANSPORTATION			
An Act Restoring the Taxpayer Protection Act	HD.3334	Representative Michelle DuBois	Repeals the current exemption from the Taxpayer Protection Act at the MBTA.
An Act requiring additional reporting of transportation privatization contracts to promote transparency	S.1694	Senator Ken Donnelly	Makes public additional information regarding privatization contracts at the MBTA, including employee wage and salary rates, retirement, insurance or other employee benefit costs
An Act Establishing Collective Bargaining Rights for TNC Drivers	S.1022	Senator Jason Lewis	Establishes the right of drivers for Transportation Network Company (such as Uber and Lyft) to organize and bargain collectively.

An Act relative to 2-person train crew size	S.1953	Senator Thomas McGee	Mandates a two man crew on every train or light engine used to carry freight in MA
PUBLIC EDUCATION / HIGHER ED			
An Act strengthening and investing in our educators, students and communities	S.308	Senator Michael Rush	Updates the state education funding formula, mandates a moratorium on and replacement of high-stakes testing, promotes community collaboration in improving schools, and provides services critical to student academic and social-emotional development
An Act investing in public higher education	H.639	Senator Eileen Donahue / Representative Paul Mark	Provides access to health insurance and state pension options for adjunct faculty who are teaching the equivalent of .5 time or more across all campuses
An Act to Support Educational Opportunity for All	S.1515/H.1617	Senator Ken Donnelly / Representative Denise Provost	Establishes a 2.5% excise on the largest endowment funds of private colleges and universities to subsidize the cost of higher education, early education, and child care
An Act relative to strengthening and expanding higher education opportunities	S.702	Senator Michael O. Moore	Increasing funding for public higher education institutions by \$95 million per year for five years
PAY PARITY & CLASSROOM STABILITY FOR HIGHER ED	HD.2336	Representative Tom Stanley	This legislation requires colleges and universities provide pay parity between adjunct and full-time faculty
STRENGTHENING THE SOCIAL SAFETY NET			
An Act Improving the Earned Income Credit for Healthier Families	S.1521 / HD.1264	Senator Jamie Eldridge / Representative Marjorie Decker	Increase the state Earned Income Tax Credit from 23 percent to 50 percent of the value of the federal EITC for all eligible recipients
An Act Amending Unemployment Insurance Law for Workers With Fluctuating Work Schedules	S.1003 / H.1012	Senator Ken Donnelly / Representative Ken Gordon	Eliminates a barrier to collecting UI for certain workers by basing average wages on two quarters instead of one

An Act to lift the cap on kids	S.34 / HD.1262	Senators Sal N. DiDomenico and Jamie Eldridge	Eliminates the cap on TAFDC benefits for families that have additional children while receiving benefits.
LICENSING			
An Act establishing a board of hoisting machinery regulations	S.1345	Senator Michael O. Moore	Establishes a Board of Hoisting Machinery Regulations, and defines the Board's membership and duties.
An Act relative to refrigeration technicians	HD.3065	Representative Nick Collins	Creates a new classification of Refrigeration Technician's license that will be required for the installation and service of refrigeration systems from 0 to 10 tons of refrigeration capacity
RETIREMENT BENEFITS			
An Act relative to authorizing a local option for group retirement classification	S.1427	Senator Thomas McGee	Allows municipalities and public authorities to improve the group retirement classification system via a vote of the governing body.
An Act relative to secure choice retirement savings plan	S.515 / HD.3088	Senator Sal N. DiDomenico	Employers who do not already offer a retirement plan would automatically enroll their employees and a portion of each worker's pay would be voluntarily contributed through payroll deduction
Retirement Equity for correctional program officers	HD.2325	Representative James O'Day	This legislation would move CPOs to Group 4 and is only group reclassification legislation endorsed by the Massachusetts State Board of Retirement
An Act Authorizing Certain Employees' Creditable Retirement Services	HD.3120	Representative James O'Day	Amends GL 32:4 to allow a member of a public retirement system up to 4 years of creditable service for service in the armed forces of the United States or the Peace Corps, and Vista.
An Act relative to survivor retirement benefits	H.1365	Representative Marjorie Decker	
PUBLIC SECTOR COLLECTIVE BARGAINING / WORKER PROTECTIONS			
DCF Social Worker Home Address Shield	HD.3222	Representative James O'Day	This legislation would allow a social worker to use his or her work address when carrying out their job responsibilities--as is the case with other law enforcement and court officials.

Private Sector Human Service Worker Appeal Process	H.1025	Representative Paul Mark	This Legislation establishes an appeals process for human service workers that are found to have a “substantiated” finding of abuse and neglect.
An Act relative to residency	H.1326	Representative Bruce Ayers	Allows for non-civil service fire departments to have residency as a subject of collective bargaining; like civil service fire departments do.
An Act relative to firefighters cessation program	H.1361	Representative Claire Cronin	Amends the statute governing the termination of Police Officers and Firefighters for smoking, to require that, prior to termination, said officer or firefighters be given the opportunity to enter a smoking cessation program; authorizes dismissal for subsequent violations.
An Act Relative to Collective Bargaining Dues	S.1047	Senator Mike Rush	Would make it so that no Administration can deny the union's right to collect dues from paychecks.
An Act Providing for Fairness and Equity for Massachusetts Water Resources Authority Employees	HD.2934	Representative Nick Collins	Removes instances of "collective bargaining agreement" and replaces it with "for just cause" in MWRA statute.
An Act Relative to the Employee Rights of Employees of the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority	HD.2938	Representative Nick Collins	Amends the MWRA statute to make the employment, assignment and promotion of employees, and the determination of standards therefore, subject to collective bargaining agreements.
OTHER			
An Act establishing a broadband infrastructure study commission	S.1861	Senator Barbara L'Italien	Establishes a nine member special commission to examine the state of the telecommunications and broadband infrastructure in the commonwealth
An Act to limit retroactive denials of health insurance claims for mental health and substance abuse services	S.582 / HD.3230	Senator Michael Rodrigues	Provides transparency on insurance companies when attempting to recoup payment from mental healthcare providers for services delivered after the fact
An Act Providing for the Retention of Retail Workers	S.1056 / HD.2323	Senator James E. Timilty / Representative Ann-Margaret Ferrante	Provide a 90-day transition period following a change in ownership of a grocery or retail store in Massachusetts with temporary protection for employees who may face unemployment through no fault of their own.