

# 2025-2026 Legislative Agenda



## **H.2078/S.1311 | *An Act uplifting families and securing the right to strike for certain public employees***

**Lead Sponsors:** Rep. Mike Connolly (D-Cambridge) & Rep. Erika Uyterhoeven (D-Somerville) | Sen. Jamie Eldridge (D-Acton)

Massachusetts public employees, including educators, are currently prohibited by state law from engaging in a strike, regardless of their working conditions, their students' learning conditions, or whether their employer may have committed unfair labor practices.

This outright ban on public employees striking is deeply unjust, prevents educators from bargaining on a level playing field with their employers, and unfairly restricts the ability of educators to take collective action in support of their families, their students and the communities they serve. This imbalance of power under the law has allowed employers and their anti-union lawyers to ignore issues that are important to educators, students and families.

### **An Act uplifting families and securing the right to strike for certain public employees will address this injustice by:**

- Allowing educators and other public employees, except for public safety personnel, to legally strike after six months of negotiations if they have not reached an agreement with their employer.
- Ensuring that the right to free speech is no longer restricted for public employees and their unions as it relates to discussing or supporting a strike.
- Providing educators and certain other public employees with a fundamental right that is available to workers in the private sector.
- Leveling the playing field at the bargaining table by allowing educators and certain other public employees to withhold their labor after six months of negotiations, likely leading to a quicker and more productive collective bargaining process.
- Having the Commonwealth join 12 other states, including California and Vermont, that provide public school educators with the right to strike.

Please contact MTA Government Relations if you have any questions or require any additional information.  
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