

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN MASSACHUSETTS?

MA RESOURCES AND DISCUSSION GUIDE

RESOURCES

- Neighborhood Villages: [Child Care Reform Is All the Rage: Here's Your Cheat Sheet on the Recent Legislation Coming out of DC and Massachusetts](#)
- Neighborhood Villages: [Massachusetts Can Be a Beacon for Child Care Reform — But We Must Act Now](#)
- Common Start Coalition: [The Common Start Legislation](#)
- [Strategies for Children](#)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. In the past few months, there have been several proposed pieces of legislation around child care reform. In Massachusetts, the Common Start legislation outlines a path to securing universal, affordable early childhood education and care for all families in the Commonwealth. If you live in Massachusetts, is this a bill you'd like to see passed into law? Would you consider it a priority?

2. According to a poll of Massachusetts voters in December 2020, 61 percent said that early educators should be paid “significantly more” than their current average \$31,000 annual salary. One of the components to the Common Start legislation includes an investment in educators. Do you agree that educator wages should be increased?

3. Child care costs in Massachusetts are among the most expensive in the nation. How would having universal, affordable child care affect you or your family?

4. How was your child care arrangement impacted by the pandemic? Do you know any families in Massachusetts who have been impacted by the child care crisis, especially throughout the pandemic? What kinds of reforms would impact you or them the most?

5. Would be interested in joining a movement to pass the Common Start bill for universal, affordable child care in Massachusetts? What role could you see yourself playing in a campaign to see the bill signed into law?