



Healthy Food, Healthy Homes, Healthy Children

H 429 / S 94

Lead Sponsors: **Representative Livingstone** and **Senator Montigny**

Background

Children are the future of our Commonwealth and the key to our prosperity as a community. Children's wellbeing and ability to be successful are predicated on a number of interconnected factors including stable housing, access to health care, and adequate and nutritious food.

The Healthy Food, Healthy Homes, Healthy Children (HHH) Coalition is a diverse group of human service providers, researchers, and advocacy organizations who have come together to take a holistic approach to childhood wellbeing. When it comes to the lives of young people, no factor can be resolved in isolation from others – issues such as housing, homelessness, health care, and hunger are inextricably linked.

An Act Relative to Ensuring the Wellbeing of All Children in the Commonwealth will improve the lives of Massachusetts' young people by addressing a range of issues including:

- Increases access to food benefits such as SNAP, the Child and Adult Care Food Program, and the School Breakfast Program.
- Makes families at risk of homelessness immediately eligible for emergency shelter.
- Assesses the capacity of schools to screen for medical conditions that prevent students from learning.
- Requires data sharing between state agencies to streamline applications and eliminate duplicative processes.
- Ensures that children in emergency shelter can get to medical appointments.

For additional information, please contact Jamie Gaynes at Health Care For All:
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Healthy Food, Healthy Homes, Healthy Children Coalition Members

Action for Boston Community Development, Inc. (ABCD)
Alliance of Massachusetts YMCAs
Association for Behavioral Health
Boston Children's Hospital
Boston Public Health Commission
Children's Health Watch
Children's Vision Massachusetts
Children's Investment Fund
Children's League of Massachusetts
Citizens' Housing and Planning Association
Community Catalyst
Community Servings
Crittenton Women's Union
Greater Boston Food Bank
Health Care For All
Health Law Advocates
The Home for Little Wanderers
Homes for Families
Joint Committee for Children's Health Care in Everett
Massachusetts Alliance on Teen Pregnancy
Massachusetts Children's Trust
Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless
Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition
Massachusetts Law Reform Institute
Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers
Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children
Medical Legal Partnership
NAACP Boston Branch
National Association of Social Workers, MA Chapter
New Lease for Homeless Families
Project Bread
RCAP Solutions
United Way of Massachusetts Bay and Merrimack Valley