



Healthy Families EITC Coalition Statement on Massachusetts Tax Relief Legislation:

In July 2022, the Healthy Families EITC Coalition celebrated the unanimous passage of An Act to improve Massachusetts' Economic Development in the House and Senate. This landmark bill would raise the state Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) to 40% of the federal credit, providing **permanent** tax relief for nearly 400,000 families across Massachusetts. Coupled with increases to other tax credits for families with low- and middle- incomes, this tax package is a robust solution to address the needs of the Commonwealth's families, particularly those who are being pushed further into financial instability and hardship by the rising cost of living.

Despite united readiness among the state Legislature and Governor to pass tax relief this year, we are deeply disappointed that unanticipated implications of a regressive 1986 tax cap law – which will ultimately benefit middle- and high-income earners – thwarted progress toward passing this key package before the end of the formal legislative session.

We cannot let outdated and inequitable tax law halt momentum toward providing critical permanent relief for families to afford basic needs. We urge the legislature to act in informal session to permanently boost incomes for families and invest in other supports that promote equity and prevent hardship. The expansion of the EITC and other tax relief passed in the Economic Development bill would reduce income inequality and provide the greatest aid to families most in need.

People with low incomes cannot continue to be overlooked. The Healthy Families EITC Coalition is encouraged by state leaders' commitment to pass meaningful and permanent tax relief this year, and will continue to work with the Legislature during informal session to ensure that the EITC is included in final economic legislation.

Signed:

ABCD/Action for Boston Community Development

Boston Children's Hospital

Boston Indicators

Boston Medical Center

Boston Public Health Commission

Boston Tax Help Coalition

Brazilian Women's Group

Brazilian Worker Center

Children's HealthWatch

EMPath

Greater Boston Legal Services

Greater Lawrence Family Health Center

Groundwork Lawrence

Homes for Families



Horizons for Homeless Children

Jane Doe

Jewish Community Relations Council

Jewish Vocational Services

Massachusetts Association for Community Action (MASSCAP)

Massachusetts Association of Community Development Corporations (MACDC)

Massachusetts Communities Action Network

Massachusetts Essentials for Childhood Initiative

Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition (MIRA)

Massachusetts Law Reform Institute (MLRI)

Massachusetts Public Health Association

Massachusetts Budget & Policy Center

Massachusetts Public Research Interest Group (MASSPIRG)

Metropolitan Area Planning Council

Midas Collaborative

NAACP, New England Area Conference

National Consumer Law Center

New England United for Justice

One Family, Inc.

Project Bread

StreetCred

The Boston Foundation

United Way of Massachusetts Bay and Merrimack Valley