

# LIFT OUR KIDS

## Please Co-Sponsor Rep. Decker's and Sen. DiDomenico's TWO Bills to Lift Our Lowest-Income Kids

### HD 3043, SD 1452

#### Lift the Cap on Kids: repeal the welfare Family Cap

- The cap on kids – also called the Family cap – denies TAFDC (Transitional Aid to Families with Dependent Children) to children conceived while – or soon after – the family received benefits.
- Welfare benefits go up by about \$100 a month as family size increases *unless the child is excluded by the Cap on Kids*.

#### Didn't we do this last year?

- The Legislature included Lift the Cap on Kids in the FY 19 budget. The Governor returned it with an amendment conditioning family cap repeal on cutting off benefits to children with a disabled parent.
- The Legislature rejected the amendment and reenacted family cap repeal, but the Governor vetoed it after the formal session ended.

*"Proud the House voted to lift the cap on kids and support vulnerable children."*

- Speaker Robert DeLeo

*Family cap is "an outdated, unjust, [and] failed policy" that "impacts nearly 9,000 vulnerable children."*

- Senate President Karen Spilka

### HD 2367, SD 1328

#### Lift Kids Out of Deep Poverty: set a floor for welfare benefits at 50% of the federal poverty level.

- "Deep poverty" is income below *half* the federal poverty level – \$889 a month for a family of three.
- TAFDC is intended to meet families' basic needs. But the maximum grant for a family of three is only \$593 a month.

#### The bill increases TAFDC by 10% a year until grants reach 50% of the federal poverty level.

- The estimated cost of the first TAFDC increase is \$15 million.
- The bill also increases EAEDC (Emergency Aid to Elders, Disabled and Children) benefits at an estimated first year cost of \$7 million.



## Partial List of Supporting Organizations

Action for Boston Community Development  
Action, Inc.  
AIDS Action Committee/Fenway Health  
Amherst Survival Center  
ARISE for Social Justice  
Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence (ATASK)  
Association of Haitian Women (AFAB)  
Berkshire Community Diaper Project  
Boston Area Rape Crisis Center  
Brazilian Women's Group  
Brookview House, Inc.  
Cape Cod Children's Place  
Casa Myrna  
Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Boston  
Central West Justice Center  
Charles Hamilton Houston Institute for Race & Justice  
Children's HealthWatch  
Children's Law Center of Massachusetts  
City Mission Boston  
Coalition for Social Justice  
Community Action Agency of Somerville, Inc.  
Community Action Pioneer Valley  
Community Legal Services and Counseling Center  
Cradles to Crayons  
Economic Mobility Pathways (EMPath)  
Elizabeth Freeman Center, Inc.  
Greater Boston Food Bank  
Greater Boston Legal Services  
The Home for Little Wanderers  
Homes for Families  
HomeStart, Inc.  
Horizons for Homeless Children  
Immigrant Service Providers Group/Health  
Jane Doe Inc.  
Jewish Community Relations Council  
Jewish Family and Children's Services  
Justice Center of Southeast MA  
Lynn Economic Opportunity, Inc.  
Massachusetts Advocates for Children  
Massachusetts Alliance of Portuguese Speakers  
Mass. Association of Early Education & Care (MADCA)  
Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless  
Mass. Immigrant & Refugee Advocacy (MIRA)  
Coalition  
Massachusetts Jobs With Justice  
Massachusetts Law Reform Institute  
Mental Health Legal Advisors Committee  
Metrowest Legal Services  
MLPB  
NARAL Pro Choice Massachusetts  
National Association of Social Workers, Mass. Chapter  
New England Jewish Labor Committee  
North Shore Postpartum Help  
Northeastern University School of Law Clinics  
Open Pantry Community Services, Inc.  
Parenting Journey  
Poor People's United Fund  
Progressive Massachusetts  
Project Bread  
Project Hope  
REACH Beyond Domestic Violence, Inc.  
Roca  
Rosie's Place  
Sister of St. Joseph of Boston  
Somerville Homeless Coalition  
Springfield No One Leaves  
Stavros  
UAW Region 9A Mass. State CAP Council  
Union of Minority Neighborhoods  
United Way Mass. Bay and Merrimack Valley  
Witnesses to Hunger, Boston  
Women's Bar Association of Massachusetts  
Worcester County Food Bank  
Worcester Food Policy Council

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