



On Solid Ground Coalition 2020–2021 Legislative Priorities

The On Solid Ground Coalition is a diverse group of partners committed to improving housing stability and economic mobility for families living in Massachusetts through cross-sector research, evidence-informed advocacy, and family engagement. Our 4 main areas of focus are:

- Advancing system coordination between state agencies for better service delivery;
- Combating cliff effects (families losing essential benefits due to meagre increase in earnings);
- Increasing resources for families like housing, childcare, nutrition; and
- Improving data tracking for evidence based policy.

This package of legislation will help families navigate through multiple state agencies and benefit programs, increase access to necessary support services through data sharing and provide a path of economic mobility for families across the Commonwealth.

An Act Relative to Economic Mobility for Families with Low-Income (HD.2519/ SD.910)

Filed by Rep. Aaron Vega & Sen. Jason Lewis

This bill directs the Secretariats to study the impacts of minimum wage increases on cliff effects and accordingly make changes in assistance programs to avoid the cliffs. The bill also makes data and information around economic mobility and assistance programs more accessible to families so that they are better informed and can benefit from the available resources.

An Act Providing for Coordinated Data and Assistance to Address Family Homelessness (SD.1433)

Filed by Sen. Comerford

This bill increases data transparency and system coordination by directing state agencies to report on certain homelessness related measures and their current system coordination efforts to improve access to support services to families. The bill also makes benefit program information more accessible to families through an agency telephone hotline and website.

For more information, please contact Abhidnya, Policy Associate & Coordinator at Citizens' Housing and Planning Association and On Solid Ground Coalition, at akurve@chapa.org or (617) 701-7477