

# PREPARED BY

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# **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The Black Economic Council of Massachusetts (BECMA) would like to acknowledge several individuals who were helpful in the development of our policy agenda through the lending of their time, talent, and expertise.

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# **IN MEMORIAM**

BECMA wishes to express its gratitude to the late Elizabeth "Beth" Williams (1963–2021), President & CEO of Roxbury Technology Corp. We extend our deepest condolences to her family and friends; her son Kameron Nobles; her sister Donna Williams; her dear friend Joan Harrington; and her niece Christina Soares. We are also grateful to Beth's parents, Archie Williams and Norma E. Bartos Williams, for all that they poured into her that ensured she would deliver enormous contributions to her community.

Beth was a BECMA Board Member and served on the Policy Committee. She passed away on April 21, 2021, at the age of 57. We are grateful for the significant impact Beth had on the civic, business, and social fabric of Boston and Massachusetts.

"I too see business as a means to improve a community. If people have jobs or access and training for them, the desperation and need to perpetuate many of the social problems in our community, I believe, would slowly begin to diminish."

**Beth Williams** 

The Bay State Banner, May 7, 2014

Photo: Webb Chappell

# **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Welcome from Our President & CEO	4
Executive Summary	5
2021–2022 Policy Focus Areas	7
Investing in Our Businesses and Entrepreneurs	8
Empowering Our Workers and Leaders	
Developing Today's Students and Tomorrow's Workforce	13
Building Equitable and Sustainable Green Infrastructure	16
On the Radar: Secondary Priorities	18
BECMA Board and Staff	20
Endnotes	21

## **WELCOME FROM OUR PRESIDENT & CEO**

May 19, 2021

Dear BECMA Members and Friends,

We are pleased to present our statewide policy agenda for the 192nd General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The policies outlined in this report seek to open new and expand existing opportunities for Black entrepreneurs and workers, while also aiming to further the development and health of our communities.

2020 presented the Black community in Massachusetts with increased public health, economic, and social challenges. However, many of the socioeconomic and political problems we faced were the result of deep-rooted inequities that the Commonwealth and our country created and continue to perpetuate. Despite these realities, we are inspired by the dedication, resilience, and determination our communities across the Commonwealth have shown in improving the economic realities of Black people. As we continue to face the impacts of a once-in-a-century pandemic, an economic downturn, political unrest, and structural racism, we center our work around the importance of uplifting Black entrepreneurs and workers, improving Black communities, and expanding opportunities for all Black people across the diaspora.

BECMA is experiencing significant growth. In the last few months alone, we have substantially increased our staffing capacity and built up our resources so that we are prepared to meet the challenges confronting us. Working with our devoted partners, we have responded tirelessly to the multiple crises that Black businesses, organizations, and people are facing. With your valued support and the steady guidance of our Board of Directors, our organization has laid a strong foundation to build on, and I am confident that our best days are ahead.

BECMA has positioned itself as the leading voice for economic development for Black people in Massachusetts. Our members' interests are being heard and addressed through legislation, budget allocations, and regulatory changes. Together, we will continue to fight for systemic change to the challenges so many of us face.

I am grateful to each of you for your ongoing confidence in BECMA and commitment to our shared goals. Thank you for your support.

Onward!

Segun Idowu

President & CEO

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Founded in 2015, BECMA is committed to prioritizing policies and practices that tackle systemic barriers to inclusion and ultimately eliminate the racial wealth gap. Today, we represent over 2,000 Massachusetts-based Black firms that employ 17,000 residents and generate a collective \$1.9 billion in revenue annually, all of which is reinvested into our local economy.

Our mission is to advance the economic wellbeing of Black businesses, organizations, and people in Massachusetts through advocacy, business and leadership development, and strategic partnerships. Racial equity is the primary lens through which we view all policy issues. With COVID-19 having devastated the lives and livelihood of our families, we must continue to center racial equity in all of our discussions regarding the recovery and growth of our communities. We therefore have a mandate to advocate for Black people on all issues regarding economic opportunity and development.



Massachusetts, like the entire country and world, was enormously impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent economic crisis. The pandemic and economic downturn, along with existing social and economic inequalities and structural racism, proved to be detrimental to Black people and other people of color. This policy agenda aims to pursue and uplift policies that address these issues head on to envision a new normal where the economic well-being of Black people in Massachusetts is no longer a concept, but our everyday reality.

As the Commonwealth looks to visualize a more equitable future, BECMA aims to advance policies for Black businesses, organizations, and people that:

- Enable businesses to start and thrive
- Create 21st century workforce development opportunities
- Foster healthy people, families, and communities
- Prepare the next generation of entrepreneurs and innovators
- Support liberation and generational wealth creation

These core principles will guide our policy and advocacy efforts in the years to come.

We believe that there is strength in numbers. BECMA achieves much of its work by being part of a growing roster of regional and statewide coalitions. In response to the justified uprisings we saw erupt across the nation in 2020 as a result of the murders of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, George Floyd, and countless other Black Americans, BECMA convened a broad group of Black and Indigenous organizations across Massachusetts to develop a list of actionable items for four groups — the private sector, nonprofits, philanthropic organizations, and government — to commit to in order to begin addressing the deeply rooted history of systemic racism and violent oppression. That group became known as the Black Mass. Coalition.

We're also proud members of the:

- Massachusetts Public Banking Coalition
- Coalition for an Equitable Economy
- New Boston Coalition
- Massachusetts Business Coalition for Early Childhood Education
- Massachusetts Business Coalition on Skills
- Vocational Education Justice Coalition
- Common Start Coalition
- Wage Equity Now Coalition

We strongly urge policymakers to embrace our policy principles and work with and uplift Black communities, entrepreneurs, workers, advocates, and leaders to meet the moment we're in. Together, we can envision a new normal that creates an equitable economy and just recovery that works for us all.

We invite you to join us in this work.

Samuel M. Gebru

Courtney J. Brunson

Director of Policy and Public Affairs

Policy Advisor



# **INVESTING IN OUR BUSINESSES** AND ENTREPRENEURS

Black and Latinx people now make up more than a fifth of the Commonwealth's population, but own just over 3% of businesses with employees — less than half the national rate of Black and Latinx business ownership, according to a U.S. Census survey of entrepreneurs released in 2018. If the self-employed are factored in, Black and Latinx people own about 9% of all businesses in the state, also less than half the national average, according to the most recent Census survey in 2012.2

According to an analysis conducted by GBH News, the share of contracts awarded to Black and Latinx businesses at the state level declined by 24% during the 2000s and 2010s.3 The Massachusetts Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance (DCAMM) commissioned a separate study that discovered between 2010 and 2015 African American contractors received only 1% of design and construction spending by the state agency, which represented a 3% fall from the years between 1999 and 2004.4 This data makes very clear that the state has made little or no progress in the equitable provision of state contracts. As a result, Boston remains well behind other cities on the participation rates of diverse contractors: New York (19%), the Chicago area (29%), and Philadelphia (31%).5

To combat these significant discrepancies, it is important that there is an increase in the funding resources available for Black businesses and entrepreneurs. The provision of additional capital would help in leveling the playing field of current firms in the state. There must also be greater enforcement of existing contracting goals — through data collection and accountability mechanisms - and creation of more robust contracting goals to facilitate the true inclusion of diverse businesses in state-funded contracts.

BECMA will champion the following bills that invest in our businesses and entrepreneurs:

## ESTABLISHING A MASSACHUSETTS PUBLIC BANK

S.665/H.1223 — An Act to establish a Massachusetts public bank

Sponsors: Sen. James B. Eldridge; Reps. Mike Connolly and Nika C. Elugardo

This bill would establish a public bank in Massachusetts that seeks to "complement and support the operation of" Massachusetts banks and other existing institutions, requiring it to "partner rather than compete with those entities to strengthen them and expand affordable financing in the Commonwealth." The public bank would transfer state funding to the bank to facilitate local financing for cities and towns, small businesses, community development, farming and agriculture, climate change, and more.

### COMPETITIVE GRANTS FOR MINORITY STARTUPS

S.268 — An Act to provide startup capital for minority entrepreneurs

Sponsor: Sen. Eric P. Lesser

This bill would establish a \$10 million competitive grant program for minority-owned and led startup companies in Massachusetts. The program would be housed at MassVentures, a quasi-public venture capital firm addressing the capital gap for startups and encouraging the growth of early-stage Massachusetts-based startups.

### **EOUITY IN PUBLIC CONTRACTING AND CONSTRUCTION**

H.3167 — An Act to expand opportunities for minority and women business enterprises in public construction

Sponsors: Reps. Russell E. Holmes, Bud L. Williams, and Kip A. Diggs

This bill will help afford new opportunities to Minority Business Enterprises (MBEs) and Women Business Enterprises (WBEs) in two ways. First, it proposes an increase in the dollar thresholds over which public entities are required to subcontract and bid out specific components of a project, which allows smaller MWBEs to participate in public building projects. Second, it expands opportunities for MWBEs on DCAMM and other public projects in areas where they have not been readily available by allowing DCAMM to set diverse participation goals for subcontracted work.

#### S.255 — An Act relative to diverse marketing programs

Sponsors: Sens. Nick Collins and Michael O. Moore

This bill will require state authorities to establish an affirmative marketing program that will set goals to ensure the fair participation of MWBEs for capital facility projects and the disposition of real property. The affirmative marketing program will establish participation goals that are equal to or exceed the goals for MWBEs as established by DCAMM pursuant to Section 6 of Chapter 7C.

S.2018/H.3166 — An Act relative to equity in public contracting in honor of Bruce C. Bolling Sponsors: Sen. Sonia R. Chang-Diaz; Reps. Russell E. Holmes and Elizabeth A. Malia

This bill requires any entity awarded a contract under the provisions of Chapter 7 to provide written verification with every invoice submitted to the awarding authority detailing the portion of the payment that will be allocated to MWBEs, and reporting the racial, ethnic, and gender make-up of the awardees' workforce in Massachusetts. The awarding authority will be required to submit the report to the Massachusetts Management and Reporting System (MMARS), which will aggregate this data for public use.

## INCLUSIVE ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND ECONOMIC JUSTICE

S.270/H.505 — An Act to promote inclusive entrepreneurship and economic justice Sponsors: Sen. Eric P. Lesser and Rep. Antonio F. D. Cabral

This bill would mandate a comprehensive plan for supporting businesses of color, including by requiring the state's quadrennial economic development strategy include assessments of racial and ethnic disparities. The bill would also mandate diversity on public boards, improve supplier diversity at anchor institutions, strengthen neighborhood business districts, and expose predatory lending practices.

## \$10 MILLION FOR THE SMALL BUSINESS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM

#### FY22 Line Item 7002-0040

The Small Business Technical Assistance Grant Program has been essential during COVID-19. The Massachusetts Growth Capital Corporation has used the existing \$5.1 million in the FY21 budget to work with community-based organizations to assist small businesses. These funds have helped entrepreneurs apply for PPP loans, secure state and local grants, implement COVID-19 safety protocols, and adopt new technologies. We are advocating for \$10 million to support this critical program. As we recover, the opportunities and challenges will be even greater, and we need the increased capacity to meet this moment and secure an inclusive and equitable future.

## **\$3 MILLION FOR THE SUPPLIER DIVERSITY OFFICE**

#### FY22 Line Item 1780-0100

The Supplier Diversity Office (SDO) is an independent state agency that increases opportunities for certified businesses and Small Business Purchasing Program participants by implementing annual state agency spending benchmarks and bid evaluation criteria within the state goods and services procurement process. The SDO also provides public access to the list of certified businesses, including MBEs, and distributes opportunity events and notices to participants. In order to assist the SDO in their efforts to be more intentional in setting and achieving greater diversity, equity, and inclusion in the state contracting process, we are advocating for \$3 million.

# **EMPOWERING OUR WORKERS** AND LEADERS

Since the mid-1970s, while productivity continued to grow, wage growth for most workers slowed considerably, creating an economy that has not been working as well for everyone.6 Workers in Massachusetts, as in the nation generally, have seen little to no wage growth since the 1980s.7 This lack of wage growth disproportionately affects Black workers.8 In addition, there is a lack of ethnic diversity in the Commonwealth's workforce. Black workers are most largely represented in healthcare, social assistance, retail trade, and educational services.9 However, representation across industries is decreasing. A report by the Mass Technology Leadership Council estimated that, in 2018, Black or African American people made up only 5% of tech workers in Massachusetts, which fell below the percentage of tech workers who were Hispanic or Latinx (7%), Asian (20%), or white (67%).10

The pandemic has only worsened the conditions that Black workers face. Black workers are more likely to be in front-line jobs that are categorized as "essential" - forcing them to risk their own and their families' health to earn a living. Black Americans, who were among the hardest hit by coronavirus layoffs, are now recovering at the slowest rate.12

Public and private entities play a significant role in shaping the market, workforce, and economy. Despite this significance, one of the most important stakeholders, workers, do not currently have a part in corporate decision-making. This limits both their ability to determine the entities' priorities and strategic planning.<sup>13</sup> Research suggests employee directors and work councils also improve corporate governance and positively shape company strategy.14 MIT researchers recently found that companies that give employees a seat at the table also result in 40-50% larger capital stocks invested in fixed assets, lower outsourcing, and an increase in labor productivity.<sup>15</sup>

Legislative solutions to address these issues should include the compilation, aggregation, and public release of wage and salary data from public and private employers. This would aid employees in their efforts to advocate for better wages and pursue well paid opportunities. To expand available opportunities and close critical skills gaps, workers should also be provided with training in the workplace and skilled trades. Finally, to strengthen workers' voice and improve cooperation with management, employees should participate on company or supervisory boards.16

BECMA will champion the following bills that empower our workers:

## **WAGE TRANSPARENCY IN THE WORKPLACE**

H.2020/S.1196 — An Act relative to transparency in the workplace

Sponsors: Sen. Paul R. Feeney; Reps. Liz Miranda and Elizabeth A. Malia

This bill would require the submission of wage data to a public database maintained by the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development. The data would be broken down by gender and race, listing the top ten salary earners in all employers in Massachusetts with over 100 full-time employees.

H.1950/S.1208 — An Act relative to wage transparency

Sponsors: Sen. Patricia D. Jehlen; Rep. Josh S. Cutler

This bill would require employers with over 50 full-time employees to provide information about the salary range of a job to an applicant and to existing employees. This will help ensure that women and people of color are paid fairly and better positioned to apply and compete for positions, taking the guesswork out of salary negotiations. This legislation will help close the wage gap while also enabling employers to interview more qualified candidates and retain employees.

## **DIVERSITY ON PUBLIC AND PRIVATE BOARDS**

H.3157/S.2077 — An Act to ensure gender parity and racial and ethnic diversity on public boards and commissions

Sponsors: Sen. Jason Lewis; Rep. Patricia Haddad

This bill would require that the composition of each appointed public board and commission broadly reflect the general public of the Commonwealth. All appointive boards and commissions of the state shall be gender, racially and ethnically balanced. According to the bill, composition should not exceed 50% of one gender. Additionally, racial and ethnic composition of each board and commission must, at minimum, reflect the percentage of racial and ethnic minorities in the general population. There must be a focused effort to appoint women of color to boards and commissions.

## S.1814 — An Act relative to corporate board diversity

Sponsor: Sen. Sonia Chang-Diaz

This bill requires each publicly held domestic or foreign corporation whose principal executive offices are in the Commonwealth and whose governing board has had fewer than 15% members of color serving on governing boards to contribute to a Massachusetts Power Sharing Trust Fund. These funds will be transferred to the Commission on the Status of African Americans, the Commission on the Status of Latinos and Latinas, and the Commission on the Status of Citizens of Asian Descent to support their outreach and programmatic activities...

# **DEVELOPING TODAY'S STUDENTS AND** TOMORROW'S WORKFORCE

Black communities continue to face inequities in educational achievement and attainment, broadband and internet access, and public transportation. These discrepancies directly impact the economic opportunities Black residents have access to and can benefit from to increase their quality of life and intergenerational wealth.

Massachusetts families depend on early care and education (ECE) to promote healthy child development and so parents can go to work knowing their children are safe. However, our ECE sector faces many systemic challenges. Care is often unaffordable, and teachers are chronically underpaid. Education challenges continue through K-12 education in Massachusetts, with only 40% of our kids being proficient in reading by third grade, a critical benchmark for success in school and beyond.<sup>17</sup> The current selection criteria for school admission in the Commonwealth reflect educational inequities and disproportionately impact students of color. The ability of students to earn a college degree, an important driver to economic mobility and success later in life, is also currently limited. For many Black students, that's far from guaranteed: they tend to borrow significantly more than their white peers, and they're more likely to default on their loans.18

Massachusetts is one of the country's top 10 best-connected states for internet access. Yet there remains a digital divide between residents who have affordable, high-speed internet available to them and those who do not.19 A recent report on America's K-12 students concluded that almost 16 million students and 10% of teachers lack adequate internet or computing devices at home. Households of color are among the most affected. Though 18% of white homes lack broadband, the figure rises to 26% for Latinx homes and 30% for Black homes.20

BECMA will champion the following bills that develop our communities:

## AFFORDABLE AND ACCESSIBLE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

H.605/S.362 — An Act providing affordable and accessible high quality early education and care to promote child development and well-being and support the economy in the Commonwealth

Sponsors: Sen. Jason Lewis; Reps. Ken Gordon and Adrian Madaro

This bill would establish a system of affordable, high-quality early education and child care for all Massachusetts families over a five-year implementation period. It would also create a framework to increase the scope of public funding. This system would cover care for children from birth through age five, as well as after- and out-of-school time for children ages 5-12, and for children with special needs through age 15. The aim of this bill is to substantially increase the affordability, availability, and quality of early education and child care for all Massachusetts families. Direct funding would be given to child care providers, including to support better worker pay and professional development opportunities, and subsidies to families ensuring free or low cost child care.

## **BROADBAND AFFORDABILITY FOR K-12 FAMILIES**

H.131 — An Act creating the Massachusetts digital equity broadband adoption program Sponsors: Reps. Bud L. Williams and Frank A. Moran

This bill would establish the Massachusetts Digital Equity Broadband Adoption Program administered within the Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development. It would also establish the Broadband Adoption Digital Equity Fund to support the program's implementation. The program would expand the availability of broadband internet throughout Massachusetts by providing direct financial assistance to eligible families. Data from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education would be used to identify families with children enrolled in grades K-12 that need broadband internet financial assistance. \$50 monthly vouchers would be given for hardware and wireless internet subscription fees.

## **DEVELOPING 21ST CENTURY SKILLS**

H.693 — An Act relative to college in high schools

Sponsors: Reps. Jeffrey N. Roy and Kate Lipper-Garabedian

The bill would establish the Massachusetts Office of College in High School at the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to oversee high school programs, including early college, dual enrollment, industry-recognized credentialing, advanced placement, international baccalaureate, and innovation pathways to expand student access to college credit and postsecondary credential opportunities. All high schools would be required to offer an affordable college in high school program to their students.

## **\$7.4 MILLION FOR THE EARLY COLLEGE INITIATIVE**

#### FY22 Line Item 7066-0019

The Early College Initiative creates and maintains partnerships that connect high schools with colleges, giving thousands of Massachusetts students the opportunity to access college courses and credits while in high school. This program has been especially important for first-generation college seekers, as well as students of color and from low-income families. Black and Latinx students in the early college program have demonstrated higher rates of college attendance than their peers. We are advocating to increase funding for the Early College Initiative to \$7.4 million.

## \$15.4 MILLION FOR THE CAREER TECHNICAL INITIATIVE

#### FY22 Line Item 7002-1091

Launched in 2020, the Career Technical Initiative (CTI) is a program aimed at training an additional 20,000 skilled trades workers over the next four years in Massachusetts. This will help close critical skills gaps throughout the Commonwealth, helping to meet the needs of businesses and workers. CTI works with schools, municipalities, and other key stakeholders to provide additional career training opportunities for young people and adult learners. This multi-year investment will expand daytime enrollment in vocational schools while expanding evening programs for adults seeking certifications for high-demand industries. We are advocating to increase funding for CTI to \$15.4 million.

# **BUILDING EQUITABLE AND SUSTAINABLE GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE**

In Massachusetts and throughout the nation, Black people continue to suffer from the impact of environmental racism. Lack of political power and economic resources has led to Black people consistently facing the worst of environmental inequities - most namely through poorer health conditions, property values, and quality of life.

For children living in low-income communities with older housing that may be poorly maintained, exposure to dust mites, cockroaches, mold, and air pollution such as exhaust from nearby roadways, can also have lifelong health consequences. Research has documented that because of historic patterns of housing and community development, low-income children of color have been disproportionately living in neighborhoods with poor-quality housing made with materials that can degrade into asthma-triggering allergens.<sup>21</sup>

Processes for building energy facilities and transportation infrastructure have long excluded minority voices from decision-making tables.<sup>22</sup> As a result, many Black people have been concentrated in neighborhoods that are near industrial sites, such as power plants and factories, and mobile emissions sources, which has not only negatively affected the health of these residents, but also the property values of their homes.<sup>23</sup>

There remains a lack of consideration on the local and national level of the impacts that climate change has and will continue to have on vulnerable communities. We have seen how Black communities suffer disproportionate harm from natural disasters, including Hurricanes Katrina, Sandy, and Isaac.<sup>24</sup> There must be a greater emphasis on the development of green energy infrastructure to mitigate the impact of rising carbon emissions and sea levels. This should also be an opportunity to collaborate with Black businesses.

BECMA will champion the following bills that build equitable and sustainable green infrastructure:

## **ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE**

H.3336 — An Act relative to energy facilities siting reform to address environmental justice, climate, and public health

Sponsor: Rep. Adrian C. Madaro

The bill requires that the environmental impact report necessary for the construction of energy facilities include environmental justice considerations. This will help ensure the fair treatment and participation of all people, particularly Black people and other communities of color, in decision-making, while also protecting communities from environmental hazards.

# H.2230/S.1447 — An Act to improve outdoor and indoor air quality for communities burdened by transportation pollution

Sponsors: Sen. Patricia D. Jehlen; Reps. Christine P. Barber and Mike Connolly

The bill mandates increased air monitoring in urban hot spots, as well as remediation of indoor air quality in most public facilities, multi-unit residences and schools through installation of high efficiency filters. Urban hot spots, often located in communities of color due to previous and ongoing redlining practices, face a disproportionate risk of heat impacts and poor air quality.

### **GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE**

# H.3302/S.2158 — An Act to promote offshore wind energy and renewables Sponsors: Sen. Julian A. Cyr; Rep. Dylan A. Fernandes

The bill that promotes the creation of offshore wind energy and other renewable resources, while also requiring information on efforts to promote workforce diversity. The offshore wind energy sector will present Massachusetts with billions of dollars of opportunities in the coming years, positioning the Commonwealth with unmatched access to renewable energy. The growth of this new industry must be fair and equitable and must include diverse and skilled workforce.

#### H.3559/S.2292 — An Act relative to public transit electrification

Sponsors: Sen. Brendan P. Crighton; Reps. Steven C. Owens and Christine P. Barber

This bill facilitates public transit electrification to move toward zero emissions infrastructure statewide. Doing so will ensure a more robust and reliable transportation infrastructure while substantially reducing environmental impact and harm to communities of color. This bill would establish air monitoring stations and set robust incremental targets that reduce greenhouse gas emissions for the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority and other regional transit authorities. The bill also would prioritize environmental justice communities hit hardest by climate, public health, and socioeconomic disparities.

## ON THE RADAR: SECONDARY PRIORITIES

The following bills have our full support:

### TRANSPORTATION

S.2345 — An Act to establish fast, frequent, and reliable passenger rail service between Pittsfield and Boston via Springfield

Sponsor: Sen. Eric P. Lesser

H.3545/S.2280 — An Act establishing rapid transportation and electrification for the Fairmount corridor

Sponsors: Sen. Nick Collins; Reps. Liz Miranda and Brandy Fluker Oakley

## **PUBLIC SAFETY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

H.1826/S.920 — An Act to promote public safety and better outcomes for young adults Sponsors: Sen. Joseph Boncore; Reps. James O'Day and Kay Khan

H.135/S.47 — An Act to regulate face surveillance Sponsors: Sen. Cynthia Stone Creem; Reps. David Rogers and Orlando Ramos

## **EDUCATION**

H.42 — An Act requiring financial education in schools Sponsor: Treasurer and Receiver-General Deborah B. Goldberg

## **ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

H.465 — An Act regulating cottage foods Sponsor: Rep. Erika Uyterhoeven

## **BANKING AND FINANCE**

H.43 — An Act requiring public pension fund divestment from ammunition and firearms Sponsor: Treasurer and Receiver General Deborah B. Goldberg

H.2640 — An Act authorizing independent retirement systems to divest from fossil fuel companies

Sponsors: Reps. Dylan Fernandes and Jay D. Livingstone

S.722 — An Act authorizing independent retirement boards to divest from fossil fuel companies

Sponsor: Sen. Marc Pacheco

S.1703 — An Act relative to the divestment of state pension funds from nuclear weapons Sponsor: Sen. Jamie Eldridge

H.44 — An Act requiring investment equity

Sponsor: Treasurer and Receiver-General Deborah B. Goldberg

## HOUSING

H.1434/S.891 — An Act to prevent COVID-19 evictions and foreclosures and promote an equitable housing recovery

Sponsors: Sen. Patricia Jehlen; Reps. Kevin Honan and Frank A. Moran

H.2942 — An Act authorizing the city of Boston to fund affordable housing through a fee on certain real estate transfers

Sponsor: Rep. Kevin Honan

## **DEMOCRACY AND GOVERNANCE**

S.451 — An Act relative to voting options for inclusive and comprehensive elections Sponsor: Sen. Sonia Chang-Diaz

 $\rm H.805/S.459 - An$  Act fostering voting opportunities, trust, equity, and security Sponsors: Sen. Cynthia Stone Creem; Rep. John Lawn

H.836/S.474 — An Act to protect the voting rights of eligible incarcerated people Sponsors: Sen. Adam Hinds; Reps. Chynah Tyler and Liz Miranda

## **BECMA BOARD AND STAFF**

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Teri Williams, President & COO, OneUnited Bank; Board Chair
Lamont Clemons, Executive Vice President, S-Cel-O Painting; Board Treasurer
Farrah Belizaire, Founder, LiteWork Events
JoCole "JC" Burton, President & CEO, Maven Construction, Inc.
Terryl Calloway, CEO, Calloway Graphix, Printing, and Marketing, Inc.
Keith Chaney, President, City Sealcoating
Lamont Clemons, Executive Vice President, S-Cel-O Painting
Herby Duverné, President & CEO, Windwalker Group
Gary Evee, CEO, Evee Security Consulting Group
Charran Fisher, President, Fisher Contracting Corporation
Priscilla Flint-Banks, Vice President and Co-Founder, Black Economic Justice Institute

Carole Montgomery, Senior Manager, Gravestar Inc. Reginald Nunnally, President, NAACP Blue Hills Branch Chiderah Okoye, Executive Director, Venly Institute

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## **ENDNOTES**

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