

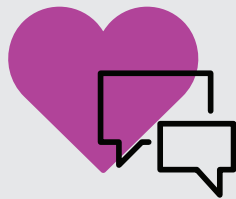
Building healthy, safe communities begins with our youth.

The **Healthy Youth Act** would give young people in Massachusetts the foundation they need to lead secure, productive lives. The legislation would:

- Ensure districts that offer sex education teach age-appropriate, medically accurate information;
- Require those districts to teach consent, the benefits of delaying sex, how to build healthy relationships, and how to prevent pregnancy and STIs when a person does have sex;
- Require the curricula used be LGBTQ-inclusive
- Continue to allow parents and guardians to take their children out of school-based sex education.

The Healthy Youth Act: Why now?

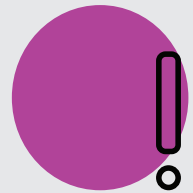
No one should have to say
#MeToo,
especially our young people.



Nine percent of Massachusetts teens reported experiencing non-consensual sexual contact in 2015. We must combat sexual assault at its roots.

STI rates

are on the rise in Massachusetts, and young people are disproportionately affected.

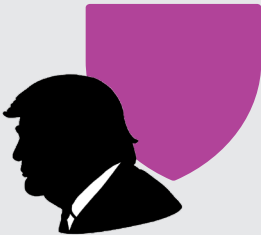


In 2015, 62 percent of chlamydia cases and 41 percent of gonorrhea cases were reported among young people ages 15 to 24. Young people do not have the tools to stay safe and healthy.

The Trump administration is pulling

\$200 million

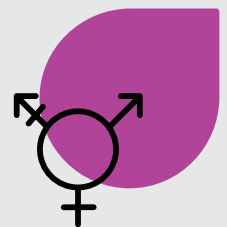
from evidence-based curricula that prevent teen pregnancy. Instead, he is investing in programs proven to be ineffective, like abstinence-only and "fertility awareness" initiatives.



LGBTQ youth

are disproportionately impacted by STIs and sexual assault.

Comprehensive sex education is inclusive of all gender identities and sexual orientations and recognizes LGBTQ youth health needs.



What is the Healthy Youth Act?

The *Healthy Youth Act* would ensure every young person who receives sex ed learns how to build healthy lives, relationships, and communities.

Comprehensive sex education teaches medically accurate, age-appropriate information. Unlike its alternatives, comprehensive sex education is actually proven to:

- ✓ Delay the initiation of sex;
- ✓ Reduce the frequency of sex, the number of partners, and unprotected sex;
- ✓ Increase the use of condoms and contraception;
- ✓ Lower STI and unintended pregnancy rates;
- ✓ Reduce bullying for LGBTQ youth;
- ✓ Enhance students' overall ability to learn.