

JDI Supported Legislation 2015-2016

Bill No. & Title	Sponsor	Bill Summary
S557/H871 An Act to Protect access to confidential healthcare	Sen. Karen Spilka Rep. Kate Hogan	Allows insureds who are legally able to consent to health care to choose preferred method of receiving summary of payments/explanation of benefits forms (EOB). Prohibits EOBs from being sent if no payment liability and prohibits the description of sensitive health care services on EOBs.
S735 An Act relative transgender anti-discrimination	Sen. Sonia Chang-Diaz	Adds “gender identity” to existing Massachusetts civil rights law for public accommodations. Also requires any public accommodations that segregate access based on a person’s sex to grant admission consistent with the person’s gender identity.
S265/H448 An Act relative to healthy youth	Sen. Sal DiDomenico Rep. James O’Day	Requires schools that provide sexuality education to provide medically-accurate, age-appropriate information. Includes education on healthy relationships free from violence, intimidation or coercion.
S983/H1733 An Act to establish pay equity	Sen. Patricia Jehlen Sen. Karen Spilka Rep. Jay D Livingstone Rep. Ellen Story	Mandates equal pay for comparable work regardless of gender. Allows employees to disclose their wages, even if the employer disagrees. Requires that employers tell employees about this wage transparency.
H2985 An Act relative to safe driving	Sen. Patricia Jehlen Rep. Farley-Bouvier	Allows residents ineligible for a Social Security Number to take the driving test and get a driver’s license. Possession of a driver’s license wouldn’t grant the recipient any public benefits. Information collected by the Registrar (why they are ineligible for an SSN, etc) must stay confidential unless the subject gives consent, or some legal situation requires it.
H2145 An Act relative to the creation of the interagency council on management of adult and juvenile sexual offenders	Rep. Kay Kahn	Establishes an interagency council on the management of adult and juvenile sex offenders within the Executive Office of Public Safety.
S958/H1716 An Act relative to defense against abusive waivers act	Sen. Harriet Chandler Rep. Gordon	Bars provisions in employment contracts that waive employees’ rights or remedies relating to a claim of discrimination, retaliation, harassment, or violation of public policy.
S1116/H1530 Act establishing civil and criminal penalties for the female genital mutilation of minors	Sen. William Brownsberger Rep. Sarah Peake	Creates civil and criminal penalties for FGM. Creates program of education, prevention and outreach; provides for services for children who have undergone or are at risk for FGM; adds FGM to 51A as mandatory reportable action.

Please Note: This is not an exhaustive list of all legislation that JDI will support this session. JDI will continue to review bills and will make determinations on our position as is appropriate.