

# 2025-2026 Legislative Agenda



## **H.2769/S.1921 | *An Act Relative to Retirement Equity for Parenting Teachers***

**Lead Sponsors:** Rep. Simon Cataldo (D-Concord) & Rep. Sean Garballey (D-Arlington) | Sen. John Velis (D-Westfield)

Educators raising young children (most typically women) often are compelled to reduce their work hours to balance family responsibilities. In doing so they may become ineligible for student loan forgiveness and their pension can be negatively impacted. Under current law, an employee who works less than full-time, but more than half-time, is not credited with a full year of service for the purpose of calculating their pension benefits and there is no opportunity to later purchase this time. For example, a teacher who works half-time for 5 years would accrue 2.5 years of service, resulting in a difficult choice: Retire with a smaller pension or work years beyond the normal retirement age.

### **This bill would:**

- Allow teachers who reduced their work time to meet the demands of child-rearing or family care an opportunity to buy back up to five years of time toward their retirement.
- Address the unfair 2010 rule change, which gave full-time retirement credit to teachers who only worked part-time between 1990 to 2010, but only partial (prorated) retirement credit to teachers who switched between full-time and part-time work during that same period.

### **To be eligible to purchase service under this bill, a teacher must:**

- Be a member of the Massachusetts Teachers' Retirement System or the Boston retirement system.
- Currently be working full-time.
- Have accrued at least 20 years of creditable service.
- Worked at least half-time for the school year for which they wish to purchase service.

This bill would create a fair system for long-serving teachers to retire with dignity and economic security.

Please contact MTA Government Relations if you have any questions or require any additional information.  
[governmentrelations@massteacher.org](mailto:governmentrelations@massteacher.org) | 617.878.8119