ENGLISH FOR A STRONG ECONOMY COALITION

Support the Act to Promote Economic Mobility Through ESOL

S.1326 (Senator Feeney), H.2080 (Representatives Cruz & Mendes)

We envision a Massachusetts where every immigrant and English language learner (ELL) can easily access the services they need—whether it's English language education, legal aid, healthcare, workforce training, or community integration. By creating a unified and holistic network of community organizations, government agencies, and employers, we'll close service gaps, streamline referrals, and deliver culturally responsive support that will not only help immigrants navigate their immediate needs but also support their long-term goals, whether that's advancing in their careers, obtaining credentials, or achieving specific personal or professional milestones. This system will provide clear pathways to economic mobility, empower immigrant families, and strengthen the state's economic and social fabric. Through strategic collaboration, resource sharing, and continuous impact measurement and improvement, we'll ensure immigrants have the tools and support to thrive, contributing to stronger, more vibrant communities and thriving economy across the Commonwealth.

It's time to increase funding for and coordination of vocational ESOL because it's what students want, and what employers need.

The Act to Promote Economic Mobility Through ESOL would:

1) Create an "ESOL for economic mobility coordinator" position (ESOL Coordinator) within the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development (EOLWD). Responsibilities include:

- Develop a statewide, comprehensive, actionable strategy to prepare newly arrived and other ELLs with the English language skills needed to fill in-demand jobs across Massachusetts.
- Manage and coordinate all efforts through and with the Workforce Skills Cabinet, which includes the Executive Offices of Labor and Workforce Development, Education, Economic Development, and Health and Human Services.
- Convene stakeholders, including but not limited to employers, job training providers, worker advocacy organizations, community-based organizations, and constituents, to incorporate their feedback and recommendations to strategies to achieve the recommended objectives.

2) Launch an ESOL for Economic Mobility pilot program administered by the ESOL Coordinator to provide vocational ESOL education leading to opportunities for employment to newly arrived, long-time unemployed, and underemployed English language learners that meet the immediate demands of employers.

To join the ESE Coalition and endorse this legislation, visit the ESE Coalition website
or contact kaitlyn.bean@tbf.org
English for a Strong Economy (ESE) Coalition

ENGLISH FOR A STRONG ECONOMY COALITION

ENDORSING ORGANIZATIONS

African Bridge Network
Caribbean Youth Club (CYC)
Community Labor United
English for New Bostonians (ENB)
Immigrant Family Services Institute (IFSI)
Jewish Alliance for Law and Social Action (JALSA)
JVS Boston
Massachusetts Association of Community Colleges (MACC)
Mass General Brigham
MA Immigrant & Refugee Advocacy Coalition (MIRA)
New American Association of Massachusetts (NAAM)
SkillWorks
The Boston Foundation
Workforce Solutions Group

To join the ESE Coalition and endorse this legislation, visit the ESE Coalition website
or contact kaitlyn.bean@tbf.org
English for a Strong Economy (ESE) Coalition