

Statement from the Massachusetts Education Equity Partnership

With the passage of the Student Opportunity Act, the Massachusetts legislature has taken a significant next step forward for the Commonwealth's students – especially our students of color, students who are economically disadvantaged, English learners and students with disabilities.

The Act not only addresses long-standing funding inequities between the Commonwealth's highest need and wealthier districts, but requires all districts to take vital steps to address persistent disparities in opportunity and achievement.

It also grants the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education authority to provide critical oversight to ensure that the substantial new investments are used to improve outcomes for historically underserved students.

As organizations committed to educational equity, we urge Governor Baker to swiftly sign the Student Opportunity Act and lay the groundwork for improvements that will enhance learning experiences and outcomes for all students, and especially for students that have been underserved in our state for too long.

