

2025-2026 Legislative Agenda



H.2820/S.1364 | *An Act streamlining state employee collective bargaining*
Lead Sponsors: Rep. Rodney Elliott (D-Lowell) | Sen. Pavel Payano (D-Lawrence)

The final step of the often long and contentious state employee collective bargaining process requires the Legislature to act on each contract before it is signed into law by the governor. Today, this is done by including language in an outside section of a supplemental budget that finalizes these contracts under Section 7 of Chapter 150e. Recently, this final step has taken more than eight months to play out, leaving some employees working without a contract for over two years.

The bill would maintain the Legislature’s authority to finalize these contracts through a new process which would:

- Finalize collective bargaining agreements 30 days after their submission to the Legislature by the governor unless they are withdrawn by the governor or rejected by a vote of the legislature.
- Allow funds previously appropriated by the Legislature and held in a collective bargain reserve account to be used to fund the collective bargaining agreements once finalized.

Please contact MTA Government Relations if you have any questions or require any additional information.
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