

MCTA Annual Meeting

February 12, 2026



PO BOX 518 Upton Ma, 01568



Legislative session - Recap

- Massachusetts has a two-year legislative session. Session began January 2025 and ends December 31, 2026
 - All bills not acted on in Year 1 automatically get carried over to Year 2.
 - Traditionally, most of the work gets done in year 2 – We are now in Year 2!
 - About 9000 bills were filed in January 2025 – approximately 115 have been signed to law
 - By comparison, 89 laws in 2023 and 407 in 2024
- Election year 2026 – lots of issues
- Not much done after August 1, 2026 (except run for re-election). Now, is a good time to schedule site visits or attend fundraisers/community events as it can make most impact.

Agency Issues

- EPA/DEP
 - Concerned about federal funding – day to day with some programs cut.
 - Some EPA rules being scaled back, delayed, or eliminated
- Energy
 - President Trump has stopped lots of clean energy funding and jobs are in jeopardy
 - Much of Massachusetts GHG goals are tied to subsidies
 - Supply chains and other cost increases have also slowed progress

Major Legislation

An Act to protect Massachusetts public health from PFAS

History

- Filed 2025
 - Refiled bill much more streamlined. Contained new exemptions, a little less bureaucracy.
 - MCTA submitted comments - still concerned about PFAS definition, unnecessary reporting, fees.
- Recent activity
 - Sent out of the Public Health Committee to Health Care Financing. Several changes were made that made it worse for MCTA and industry.
 - MCTA met with the Committee on January 22nd and submitted comments on February 2. For a copy go to our website

Other Issues

- Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), plastics, and chemical bans.
 - Little bit of action but no serious threats – AT THIS TIME
 - Some have moved to Ways and Means but most still in their original Committee
- Climate Superfund Bill – appears stalled
- Energy bill – Early March – lots of talking going on. Affordability is the driver
- Greenhouse gases
 - Trump administration planning scientific finding that serves as the legal basis for federal greenhouse-gas regulation.
 - The reversal targets the 2009 “endangerment finding,” which concluded that six greenhouse gases pose a threat to public health and welfare.
 - Analysts say that some states might want to step in and enact their own legislation in the absence of a federal standard for regulating emissions.

Regulatory Update

Still active

- DEP
 - February 13th – proposed rules on Low Emission Vehicles, ACT, HDO
- TURA fees
 - Still under discussion
- TURA listing of QACs
 - Comment deadline has passed – decision expected soon

State Ombudsperson

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Contact

The logo for RAR STRATEGIES is centered on the page. It consists of the letters "RAR" in a large, bold, black serif font, with the word "STRATEGIES" in a smaller, black, all-caps sans-serif font directly below it. The text is enclosed within a thin green rectangular border. Below the border is a solid green horizontal bar.

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