



**2021-2022 LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY GOALS**  
**June, 2021**

AIA Massachusetts (AIA MA) focuses on legislative and regulatory advocacy in the Commonwealth for issues that have direct impact on the architectural profession. For the next two years, 2021-2022, AIA MA will focus on the following advocacy for issues including, but not limited to, the following:

**Policy positions**

- **Environmental:** energy efficiency, carbon neutrality, and resiliency
- **Economic Justice:** equity and diversity in housing and access to and construction of K-12 and higher education facilities
- **Codes:** better coordination of codes and regulations for the built environment, and incentivizing renovation/retrofit of existing buildings as a sustainable practice
- **Practice:** support for the business practice of architecture for firms of all sizes, and support for initiatives that look to strengthen workforce diversity, equity and inclusion
- **Smart Growth:** support for the principles of smart growth development policies and regionally appropriate investments in infrastructure and transportation

**Legislative Advocacy**

Continue support and monitoring of bills that:

- Seek overall carbon neutrality, especially in the building sector
- Promote design and construction of zero-net energy buildings
- Encourages electrification and de-carbonization of public utilities
- Reinsert the consistency provisions that were removed from the 2018 Climate Adaptation Management Plan (C.A.M.P.)
- Promote expansion of net-metering
- Seek better coordination between the administrative boards and commissions that regulate the construction industry, and specifically seek a new legislative sponsor for the AIA MA Building Code Coordinating Council (BCCC) bill
- Support creation of more housing generally and more affordable housing particularly, with specific interest in: designer selection, permitting, use of modular construction, alternative procurement methods, and equitable housing access
- Promote more investment in and better oversight of historic preservation projects and control of demolition of historic structures
- Support development of mass timber industry in the commonwealth and the New England region

Continue opposition to and monitoring of bills that:

- Establish a Practice Act for interior designers

**Regulatory Advocacy**

Continue support and monitoring of rules and regulations related to the built environment that:

- Advance strong energy and carbon reduction provisions within the upcoming 10<sup>th</sup> edition of the state building code, including the stretch code and new municipal opt-in stretch energy code
- Include the mass timber provisions contained within the base 2021 IBC/IRC in the upcoming 10<sup>th</sup> edition of the state building code
- Support better energy and carbon efficiency standards in building renovation
- Resolve known conflicts between states' various construction codes including, but not limited to: accessibility, fire, plumbing, mechanical, and building codes
- Incorporate provisions of the IgCC into the appropriate construction codes
- Support publication of a blended state building code
- Support zoning changes to increase housing affordability through density and mixed use
- Support authorization of gender-neutral bathrooms