



## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE | February 18, 2020

Welcome to the Care Aware Legislative Update. This narrative update, along with our Bill Tracker, will be posted on the [Child Care Aware of Minnesota website](#) each Tuesday (reflecting activity through the previous Friday).

Each week, we will provide a brief overview of bills that have been introduced, action that has been taken at the committee level or on the floor, and any other pertinent news related to early care and education and school-age care issues.

If you have additions to recommend to the bill tracker, please [contact Ann McCully](#).

### OVERVIEW

The 2020 Legislative session convened at noon on Tuesday, February 11 with floor sessions in both the House and Senate. Initial bills were introduced in both bodies, and committees got rolling quickly given the short session.

On Thursday, February 13, [a press conference](#) was held by the House DFL members to release their “Great Start for All Minnesota Children Act,” a plan to close the opportunity gap and invest in early care and learning.

### COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

The first meeting of the [House Early Childhood Division](#) took place on Thursday, February 13 and featured an update by the Minnesota Department of Human Services on their work to strengthen CCAP program integrity.

To find out about any other upcoming hearings, visit the Minnesota State Legislature’s [Combined Legislative Meeting Calendar](#). To see the committees that are served by your legislators, view the [House Committee Roster](#) and [Senate Committee Roster](#).

## BILL INTRODUCTIONS

For more information about each bill, please download [our weekly Bill Tracker](#). This list includes topics, numbers, authors, and general committee referrals for bills introduced through February 13, 2020.

- Early childhood: children ages birth to three additional funding and opportunities created; home visiting, early childhood education, and child care assistance programs governed; and money appropriated (**HF 3071-Pinto**)
- Pregnancy and parenting leave incumbency requirement modified (**HF 3073-Moran**)
- Wabasso; early childhood learning center funding provided, bonds issued, and money appropriated. (**HF 3112-Torkelson/SF 2930-Dahms**)
- Prekindergarten through grade 12; policy and technical changes made to provisions including general education, schools, teachers, definitions, and timelines; and reports required (**HF 3186-Youakim**)
- Increase Teachers of Color Act strengthened, increase in percentage of teachers of color and American Indian teachers sought, reports required, and money appropriated (**HF 3201-Kunesh-Podein**)
- Commission on Fatherhood created, annual report on family relationship and economic stability issues required, and money appropriated (**HF 3301-Erickson**)
- Birth to Age 8 Pilot Project Modified (**HF 3311 Richardson/SF 3061 Abeler**)

## COMMITTEE DEADLINES

- **March 13, 2020:** Committees must act favorably on bills in the house of origin
- **March 20, 2020:** Committees must act favorably on bills, or companion bills, that met the first deadline
- **April 3, 2020:** Committees must act favorably on major appropriation and finance bills

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Thursday, February 27:** The February [budget forecast](#) is released at 11:15 a.m.
- **March 26:** Advocacy for Children Day
- **Saturday, April 4 – Monday, April 13:** Legislative recess
- The Legislature must complete its work by **Monday, May 18**