



Legislative Update: April 12, 2016 (Activity through Friday, April 8)

This update along with the Bill Tracker, will be posted each **Tuesday** (reflecting activity through the previous Friday) on the [Child Care Aware of Minnesota website](#). With only five weeks remaining in the Legislative session, this update reflects **only bills that have had hearings and are still under consideration** by one or both bodies. Refer to the Bill Tracker for all bills that have been introduced this session.

BILLS UNDER CONSIDERATION IN **BOTH BODIES**

Early Care and Education/School-age programs and services (bills referred to Education Committees)

- Early Learning Scholarships, home visiting programs, and Parent Aware activities increased funding and modifications (HF 2670/SF 2411)
- Minnesota Department of Education Policy Bill (HF 3066/SF 2744)
- Supplemental Education Finance Bill (HF 3813 & 3858/SF 3482)

Child Care Assistance/Licensing changes (bills referred to HHS committees)

- Northstar Care for children basic monthly rate modified (HF 2684/SF2641)- **Includes HF 3284 language**
- Child care grant eligibility modified (HF 3275/SF 2615)
- Child care legislative task force created, and report to the governor required (HF 3436/SF3208)

Children's mental health/child protection

- Children's Mental Health Collaboratives appropriation (HF 2661/SF 2305)
- Legislative task force on child protection extended (HF 2683/SF 2428)

Family Supports

- Early preventive dental intervention and care for infants and toddlers pilot program (HF 3429/SF 2824)

BILLS UNDER CONSIDERATION BY **ONE BODY** (These may be included in an omnibus bill)

Early Care and Education/School-age programs and services (bills referred to Education Committees)

- Prekindergarten educational program credit for donations provided, districts required to accept scholarships funded by donations, and report required (HF 1368)
- School readiness teachers licensing requirement; early childhood family education (ECFE) teacher license requirements clarification (SF 1386)
- Children's cabinet redesign; basic sliding fee and early learning scholarship modifications (SF 2652)
- Full-service community school funding increased (SF 2813)
- Minnesota Reading Corps funding increased (HF 2449)
- Community Education revenue program funding increased (SF 2463)
- School district early learning programs continuity increased (HF 3522)
- Charter schools authorized to participate in the school readiness program (HF 3523)
- Four-year-old prekindergarten program authorization (SF 3095)

Child Care Assistance/Licensing changes (bills referred to HHS committees)

- Basic sliding fee child care assistance program forecasted, and child care assistance provider reimbursement rates modified (SF 2562)
- Minnesota Initiative Foundations funding provided (SF 3049)
- Child care program governing provisions modified, legislative task force on child care created, and money appropriated (HF 3433)
- Child care program governing provisions modified (HF 3434)
- Child Care business start-up manual, grants to promote child care business start-up (HF 3435)
- Human services data provisions modifications (SF 1434)
- Department of Human Services policy and finance bill (SF3332)

Family supports (bills referred to HHS or other committees)

- Family and medical leave benefit insurance program established (SF2558)
- Maternal depression screening and treatment grant program established, and pilot projects to provide treatment for pregnant and postpartum women with substance use disorders established (HF 3419)
- Funding for crisis nursery services (SF 2984)

UPCOMING DATES

Monday, April 11-Friday, April 15: Week of the Young Child/ activities at the Capitol & virtual lobby days!

Friday, April 22 - Monday, April 25 at 8:00 a.m.: Legislative Recess

Monday, May 23: By law, legislators must adjourn this session

COMMITTEE DEADLINES

Thursday, April 21: Committees must act favorably on major appropriation and finance bills