



Legislative Update: May 3, 2016 (Activity through Friday, April 29)

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](http://www.childcareawaremn.org).

Last week, the major **omnibus finance bills** were heard and passed off of the House and Senate floors. In the **House**, E-12 and Higher Education articles were included in one bill (HF 2749- **passed on a vote of 84-46**) while Health and Human Services provisions were included in separate bill (HF 3467 **passed on a vote of 72-57**).

In the **Senate**, the finance bills were heard and passed as one overall **Supplemental Finance Bill** (SF 2356, but HF 2749 was substituted on the floor- **passed on a vote of 39-24**).

While we have reported in detail on the contents of the Education and HHS bills/articles in the past two updates, here is a recap of how the appropriations from each bill now line up:

EDUCATION FUNDING ITEMS (2017)	GOVERNOR	HOUSE	SENATE
Voluntary Pre-K Program	\$25 million	\$0	\$18 million
Reading Corps	\$0	\$1.5 million	\$3 million
Full Service Community Schools	\$2 million	\$0	\$2.2 million
Parent Aware	\$0	\$2 million	\$500,000
Parent-Child Home	\$0	\$2 million	\$1 million
St. Cloud Early Learning Pilot	\$0	\$430,000	\$0
Help Me Grow	\$1 million	\$0	\$1 million
MN Learning Resource Center: Help Me Grow	\$0	\$0	\$300,000
After School Community Learning Grants	\$0	\$0	\$500,000
Children's Cabinet: Homeless Children Supports	\$0	\$0	\$200,000
TOTAL	\$28 million	\$5.9 million	\$26.2 million
HHS FUNDING ITEMS (2017)	GOVERNOR	HOUSE	SENATE
County border child care rates change	\$0	\$54,000	\$0
Child Care task force and other provisions	\$0	\$526,000	\$0
Child Care Development Block Grant alignment	\$8 million	\$0	\$0
Increasing Child Care Assistance rates	\$20.3 million	\$0	\$8.1 million
Family Home Visiting-pregnant and parenting teens	\$10.7 million	\$0	\$0
Northstar Reimbursement Rate increase	\$0	\$0	\$8.9 million
MA home visiting reimbursement rates	\$186,000	\$0	\$186,000
Minneapolis Crisis Nursery appropriation	\$0	\$0	\$60,000
Minnesota Initiative Foundations appropriation	\$0	\$0	\$1.5 million
Dental Sealant program	\$0	\$0	\$517,000
TOTAL	\$39.2 million	\$580,000	\$19.3 million

There were a **few additional provisions** related to early care and education included in other articles of the omnibus bills as follows:

- A provision in the **Senate Higher Education** article will provide a one-time appropriation of **\$100,000 to MNSCU** to develop a multi-campus **online program** for early childhood teacher preparation.
- An appropriation in the **Senate Department of Employment and Economic Development** article will provide a one-time appropriation of **\$2.1 million to YWCA** organizations to provide job training services and workforce development programs and services, including job skills training and counseling necessary to secure a **child development associate credential** and to develop a career path in early childhood education.
- An appropriation in the Administration article of **\$300,000** to pre-design a **child care facility** on the capitol complex.
- A provision in the **House Higher Education** bill will extend the current child care assistance grant for college students to those pursuing a **graduate or professional degree**.

OTHER BILLS:

The following bill was heard and passed the Senate floor 51-9:

- Early childhood and prekindergarten through grade 12 education policy bill (SF 2744): *The House companion to this bill was incorporated into the E-12 and Higher Education Omnibus Finance Bill.*

The following bills have had a second reading and are awaiting floor action:

- Human services data provisions modifications (SF 1434).
- Maternal depression screening and treatment grant program established, and pilot projects to provide treatment for pregnant and postpartum women with substance use disorders established (SF 3419): *also included in the House Omnibus HHS bill.*
- Child care legislative task force created, and report to the governor required (SF 3208): *The House companion to this bill was included in the House Omnibus HHS bill.*

NEXT STEPS:

With just three weeks left of the Legislative session, there are still several steps left to take, including the formation of one or more **conference committees** to align the House and Senate Omnibus Finance bills. However, because this is not a budget year, the Legislature could adjourn without a supplemental budget bill.

We are still awaiting the introduction of/action on a **Tax bill** (which may involve taking up last year's bill and/or introducing new components), and a **bonding bill**—both of which may have early care and education components, such as an increase to the dependent care tax credit, and funding for early care and education facilities.

By law, legislators must adjourn this session by **Monday, May 23**.