



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE | March 26, 2019

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

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 highlights of last week were the release of the **Senate Omnibus Child Care bill** (SF 2, outlined below) and the release of the **Governor's supplemental budget** on Friday (also outlined below). An important next step is the release of the budget targets on March 25, which will set the levels of spending for each committee in the House and Senate.

BILLS INCLUDED (PARTIALLY OR FULLY) IN [SF 2](#), THE SENATE OMNIBUS CHILD CARE BILL:

- Child care in rural Minnesota funding provided and money appropriated ([SF 537-Nelson](#))
- Child care fix-it ticket violation expansion ([SF 669-Abeler](#))
- Child care training requirements streamlining by commissioner of human services requirement ([SF 789-Goggin](#))
- Human services child care background studies and training exemption authorization ([SF 882-Koran](#))
- Child care provider licensing requirement interpretation dispute department of human services clarification consultation requirement ([SF 886-Weber](#))
- Human services licensing provisions modifications ([SF 978-Kiffmeyer](#))
- Child care training requirements clarification ([SF 980-Kiffmeyer](#))
- Family child care emergency preparedness plan requirements modifications ([SF 982-Kiffmeyer](#))
- Day care facilities licensing statutes recodification requirement ([SF 1030-Kiffmeyer](#))
- Child care substitute length of time to provide care modification ([SF 1034-Relph](#))
- Child care licensing and background study record requirements streamline authorization ([SF 1035-Relph](#))
- Ombudsperson for child care providers creation and appropriation ([SF 1452-Howe](#))
- Family child care working group establishment and appropriation ([SF 2296-Housley](#))
- Child care programs water bottles requirements modification ([SF 1919-Simonson](#))
- Special family child care home additional licenses authorization ([SF 2343-Housley](#))
- Child care provider licensing inspections reform; abbreviated inspection process establishment; risk-based violation levels and corresponding enforcement actions establishment ([SF 2322-Weber](#))

GOVERNOR'S SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET ITEMS

In response to the February forecast, the Governor released a revised budget on March 22 which reflects *spending* reductions of \$131 million. There is also a total of \$37 million of *new investments* proposed. None of the originally proposed items that impact child care, early education, or school-age care are substantially impacted or cut by this proposal. There is a proposal to *increase* funds to strengthen oversight of Child Care Assistance Programs by \$200,000.

COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

The House Early Childhood Finance and Policy Division took acted on the following bills:

- [HF 497](#) (Franson) Child care providers prohibited from receiving child care assistance program reimbursements for dependents of employees. *Bill laid over.*
- [HF1230](#) (Pinto) Early learning scholarships eligibility modified, and voluntary prekindergarten programs expanded to give groups. *Bill was referred to the General Register.*
- [HF1680](#) (Demuth) Child care assistance program recordkeeping requirements clarified. *Bill laid over.*
- [HF 1685](#) (Wazlawik) Child care substitute providing care time increased. *Bill laid over.*
- [HF 1924](#) (Pryor) Family child care emergency preparedness plan requirements modified. *Bill laid over.*
- [HF 1925](#) (Pryor) Department of Human Services licensing provisions modified. *Bill laid over.*
- [HF 1926](#) (Pryor) Child care; individuals exempted from training and background studies. *Bill laid over.*
- [HF 2047](#) (Pryor) County licensors required to seek clarification from Department of Human Services before correction order issuance. *Bill laid over.*
- [HF 2048](#) (Pryor) Child care training timelines clarified and extended. *Bill laid over.*
- [HF 2049](#) (Pryor) Child care training requirements clarified. *Bill laid over.*
- [HF 2195](#) (Pryor) Early care and education program requirements governed including quality rating and improvement system, implementation outreach, universal identified requirements, and data practices evaluation; early care and education coordination task force established; *Rereferred to Education Finance.*
- [HF2319](#) (Pinto) Human services program integrity modified, criminal penalties created, and money appropriated. *Bill laid over.*
- [HF 2420](#) (Davnie) Child care site assistance funding provided, reports required, and money appropriated. *Bill laid over.*
- [HF2463](#) (Pinto) Early childhood, child care, and family support program eligibility, participation, and requirements modified (Governor's Education Bill-Early Childhood sections). *Bill laid over.*
- [HF 2474](#) (Claflin) Child care economic grant program created, and money appropriated. *Re-referred to Health and Human Services Finance Committee.*
- [HF 2575](#) (Pinto) Children and family services provisions modified, and money appropriated. *Bill laid over.*

The House Health and Human Services Finance Division acted on the following bill:

- [HF 2184](#) (Liebling) Governor's Health and Human Services Budget Bill. *Bill laid over.*

The House Judiciary Finance and Civil Law Committee acted on the following bills:

- [HF2319](#) (Pinto) Human services program integrity modified, criminal penalties created, and money appropriated. *Re-referred to Ways and Means.*

The House Capital Investment Committee acted on the following bill:

- [HF 423](#) (Brand) Greater Minnesota child care facility capital grant program bond issue and appropriation. *Informational hearing*

The Senate Human Services Reform Policy and Finance Committee acted on the following bills:

- [SF 2](#) (Housley) Family child care providers provisions modifications; office of ombudsperson for child care providers creation; family child care working group establishment. *Senate Jobs and Economic Development*

The Senate E12 Finance and Policy Committee acted on the following bills:

- [SF 2347](#) (Nelson) Prekindergarten to grade 12 education budget appropriations (Governor's Finance bill) *Laid over*
- [SF 2116](#) (Nelson) Prekindergarten through grade 12 education provisions modifications. (Governor's Policy bill) *Laid over*
- [SF 1647](#) (Anderson, P.) Parent-child home program appropriation. *Laid over for possible inclusion*
- [SF 939](#) (Nelson) Education partnership program modification and appropriation. *Laid over*

Senate Jobs & Economic Development

- [SF 2](#) (Housley) Family and group family child day care initial licensure modification; plain-language handbook, uniform family day care provider application, and child care provider communication process development requirement; appropriation. *Re-referred to the Finance Committee.*

Senate Judiciary & Public Safety

- [SF 1452](#) (Howe) Ombudsperson for child care providers creation and appropriation (re- referral). *Re-referred to the Finance Committee.*

BILL INTRODUCTIONS

Beginning with this week's report, *only bills that have received a hearing through March 22nd are listed below (highlighted in yellow)*. For information about *all bills* that have been introduced, please download our weekly [Bill Tracker](#).

Early Education/Child Care Program Development

- Additional funding and opportunities for children aged birth to three created; programs and funding for prenatal care services, home visiting, early childhood education, and child care assistance ([HF 1-Kotyza-Witthuhn/SF 820-Wiklund](#))
- Child care in rural Minnesota funding provided and money appropriated ([HF 422-Brand/SF 537-Nelson](#))
- Greater Minnesota child care facility capital grant program bond issue and appropriation ([HF 423-Brand/SF 538-Relph](#))
- Child care businesses in low-income urban areas run by two women pilot program funding provided ([HF 825-Kotyza-Witthuhn/SF 1052-Wiklund](#))
- Child care business training funding provided ([HF 908-Kotyza-Witthuhn/SF 1051-Wiklund](#))
- Programs and funding for home visits; appropriating money ([HF 1226-Bahner/SF 1438-Relph](#))
- Modifying eligibility for early learning scholarships; expanding voluntary prekindergarten programs to five groups ([HF 1230-Pinto/SF 1832-Anderson, P.](#))
- Childhood trauma-informed policy and practices task force established ([HF 1258-Moran/SF 1935-Abeler](#))
- Community solutions for healthy child development grant program established ([HF 1381-Kunesh-Podein/SF 2044-Hayden](#))
- Minneapolis YWCA job and career assistance appropriation ([HF 1594-Richardson/SF 867-Hayden](#))
- Early care and education program requirements governed including quality rating and improvement system, implementation outreach, universal identified requirements, and data practices evaluation; early care and education coordination task force established ([HF 2195-Pryor/SF 2165-Relph](#))
- Retaining early educators through attaining incentives now (REETAIN) grant program established ([HF 2264-Wazliwuk/SF 2363-Draheim](#))
- Child care site assistance funding provided ([HF 2420-Davnie](#))

- Early childhood, child care, and family support program eligibility, participation, and requirements modified (HF 2463-Pinto/SF 2630-Wiklund)
- Child care economic grant program created (HF 2474-Claflin/SF 2485-Champion)
- Children and family services provisions modified (HF 2575-Pinto)

Child Care Regulations

- Child care training requirements streamlining by commissioner of human services requirement (HF 711-Zerwas/SF 789-Goggin)
- Child care licensing requirements modified (HF 740-Quam/SF 2560-Nelson)
- Child age range increased for school-age care programs, funding for school-age care programs increased (HF 768-Edelson/SF 920-Cwodziński)
- Licensure requirement provisions technical changes made (HF 1116-Lee/SF 1499-Cwodziński)
- Child care licensing and background study record requirements streamline authorization (HF 1684/SF 1035-Relph)
- Child care substitute length of time to provide care modification (HF 1685-Wazlawik/SF 1034-Relph)
- Family and group family child care initial licensure modification; plain-language handbook, uniform family child care provider application, and child care provider communication process development requirement (HF 1701-Pinto/SF 2-Housley)
- Day care facilities licensing statutes recodification requirement (HF 1801-Pinto/SF 1030-Kiffmeyer)
- Child care provider licensing requirement interpretation dispute department of human services clarification consultation requirement (HF 2047-Pryor/SF 886-Weber)
- Child care fix-it ticket violation expansion (SF 669-Abeler)
- Human services child care background studies and training exemption authorization (HF 1926-Pryor/SF 882-Koran)
- Human services licensing provisions modifications (HF 1925-Pryor/SF 978-Kiffmeyer)
- Child care training timelines extension and clarification (HF 2048-Pryor/SF 979-Kiffmeyer)
- Child care training requirements clarification (HF 2049-Pryor/SF 980-Kiffmeyer)
- Family child care emergency preparedness plan requirements modifications (HF 1924-Pryor/SF 982-Kiffmeyer)
- Family child care homes and group family child care minimum water temperature requirements clarification (SF 1097 Mathews)
- Child care programs water bottles requirements modification (HF 1841-Olson/SF 1919-Simonson)
- Child care technical assistance notice establishment (SF 2322-Weber)

Child Care Assistance

- Child care providers prohibited from receiving child care assistance program reimbursements for dependents of employees (HF 497-Franson)
- Child care assistance for homeless people (HF 1238-Pryor/SF 1111-Weber)
- Child care centers required to provide proof of surety bond coverage (HF 1541-Zerwas/SF 1846-Jasinski)
- Child care assistance program eligibility restrictions extended (HF 1724-Zerwas/SF 1845-Jasinski)
- Early childhood, child care, and family support program eligibility, participation, and requirements modified (HF 2319-Pinto)

Pre-K–12 Programs

- Education programs; legislative grants awarded to organizations for education programs evidence-based grant standard established, and report required (HF 125-Brand/SF 2282-Rosen)
- School districts authorized to transfer community education reserve funds (HF 337-Davnie/SF 871-Dziedzic)
- Early learning scholarship age eligibility amended (HF 760-Urdahl/SF 1619-Eken)
- Early childhood screening funding provided, and money appropriated (HF 837-Sandstede/SF 1435-Cwodziński)

- After-school community learning program funding provided, report required, and money appropriated (**HF 907-Lee/SF 1428-Eichorn**)
- Full-service community schools grants appropriation (**HF 1013-Murphy/SF 37-Wiger**)
- Education partnership program modification and appropriation (**HF 1056-Moran/SF 939-Nelson**)
- Early learning scholarships eligibility modified (**HF 1110-Zerwas/SF 1367-Housley**)
- Licensure requirement provisions technical changes made (**HF 1116 Mariani**)
- Early education teacher licensure requirements established (**HF 1512-Sandell/SF 1482-Kent**)
- Early education provisions modified, five regions for the voluntary prekindergarten program established, and school readiness plus program made permanent (**HF 1590-Bernardy/SF 2078-Newton**)
- Voluntary prekindergarten program participation limits increased (**HF 1742-Kotyza-Witthun/SF 1831-Anderson, P.**)
- Pupil Fair Dismissal Act amended, and pupil dismissals limited (**HF 1785-Richardson/SF 1874-Kent**)
- Prekindergarten through grade 12 education policy changes made including general education, education excellence, nutrition, and facilities; and reports required (**HF 1954-Youakim/SF 2116-Nelson**)
- Reach Out and Reach Minnesota program grant funding provided, and money appropriated (**HF 2111-Kotyza-Witthuhn/SF 2298-Housley**)
- Governor's Education Bill (**HF 2207-Davnie/SF 2347-Nelson**)
- Voluntary prekindergarten participants service through mixed-delivery services requirement (**HF 2480/SF 1238-Nelson**)
- Community education revenue program funding increase (**SF 292-Latz**)
- Community education advisory council responsibilities and general community education revenue allowable uses calculation modifications; appropriation (**SF 1138-Nelson**)
- Voluntary prekindergarten pupil's expenditures school district and charter school recording requirement (**SF 1139-Nelson**)
- Early learning scholarships child and program eligibility and commissioner designation authority modifications; early childhood screening requirements for children with an early learning scholarship clarification; appropriation (**SF 1306-Nelson**)

Family Support

- Paid family, pregnancy, bonding, and applicant's serious medical condition benefits (**HF 5-Halvorson/SF 1060-Kent**)
- Statewide parent-to-parent programs for families of children and youth with special health care needs funding provided and money appropriated (**HF 190-Zerwas/SF 215-Hoffman**)
- Minnesota Family Investment program (MFIP) and General Assistance (GA) cash grants increase and appropriation (**HF 309-Kunesh-Podein/SF 167-Laine**)
- Pregnant and parenting pupils transportation to certain qualifying educational programs requirement and appropriation (**HF 681-Tabke/SF 340-Draheim**)
- Children's and parent's mental health provisions modified (**HF 742-Morrison/SF 1437-Mathews**)
- Prenatal care service programs and funding governed, and money appropriated (**HF 909-Morrison/SF 855-Abeler**)
- Parenting with disability support services pilot project established (**HF 1287-Fischer/SF 1555-Marty**)
- Parent-child home program funding provided, and money appropriated (**HF 1582-Youakim/SF 1647-Anderson, P.**)
- Commissioner of health grant to low-income families of color doula support, childbirth, and postpartum services funding provided, and money appropriated (**HF 1664-Gomez**)
- Child care authorizations for parenting time clarification; child care reimbursements for parenting time clarification; child care reporting requirements clarification; parenting time presumptions modification; parenting time schedules findings requirement (**HF 1666-Scott/SF 1295-Housley**)

Higher Education

- Student loan debt counseling grant program and appropriation (HF 550-Pryor/SF 306-Draheim)
- Increase Teachers of Color Act funding provided, seeking to double American Indian teacher and teachers of color, reports required, and money appropriated (HF 824-Kunesh-Podein/SF 1012-Torres Ray)

Taxes

- Child care facilities property tax exemption provided (HF 441-Gruenhagen/SF 702-Newman)
- Refundable tax credit for certain qualified child care expenses, professionals, and providers established (HF 1034/SF 1110-Anderson, P.)
- Working family tax credit calculation modified (HF 1620-Gomez/SF 2507-Rest)
- Working family tax credit calculation modified (HF 1795-Brand/SF 2503-Rest)
- Working family tax credit calculation modified (HF 1825-Loeffler/SF 2506-Rest)
- Governor's Tax Bill (HF 2125-Marquart-SF 2411-Rest)
- Individual income tax education expense credit and deduction application to prekindergarten expenses (HF 2272-Robbins/SF 1573-Anderson, P.)

Other/Oversight

- Background checks required on all first-time teaching applicants and mandatory reporting expanded (HF 532-Erickson)
- Tribal organizations and Head Start programs background studies governed (HF 1384-Her/SF 1436-Relph)
- Ombudsperson for child care providers creation and appropriation (HF 1665 Demuth/SF 1452-Howe)
- Governor's Health and Human Services Bill (HF 2184-Liebling/SF 2302-Marty)
- Children and family service policy provisions modified (HF 2397-Pryor/SF 2320-Relph)
- Human services provider enrollment medical assistance (MA) modification; counted income clarification; surety bond requirements; programs documentation, and commissioner of human services authority modifications; visit verification system; universal identification number; fraud prevention investigations appropriation (SF 4-Relph)
- Human services block grant program establishment (SF 794-Relph)

COMMITTEE DEADLINES

- **March 29:** Committees must act favorably on companion bills that met the first deadline in the other house
- **April 12:** Committees must act favorably on major appropriation and finance bills
- **May 1:** The House and Senate must pass all major finance bills off their respective floors and appoint conference committee members.
- **May 6:** Conference committee budget targets must be given to conference committee members.
- **May 13:** Conference committee reports must be completed.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **April 3:** Governor's State of the State address, 7:00 p.m.
- **April 13-22:** Easter-Passover legislative break
- **May 20:** Deadline to end the 2019 legislative session