



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE, February 9, 2021

Welcome to the third Child Care Aware Legislative Update of the 2021 Legislative session. 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

Two reports have been submitted to the Legislature and are being heard in committee hearings:

The House Select Committee on Racial Justice (“Select Committee”) was established by the Minnesota Legislature in 2020 to declare and address racism as a public health crisis and to ensure House legislative efforts are analyzed through an intersectional racial equity lens. [This report](#) was submitted on January 25. More information about the work of the select committee, including minutes and materials, can be found on the [House Committee](#) website.

The Family Child Care Task Force was created by the Minnesota Legislature in 2019 to discuss and make recommendations related to family child care licensing and the Parent Aware program. [This report](#) was submitted on Monday, February 1. More information about the Task Force, including minutes and materials from meetings, is available on the [DHS website](#).

COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

Overviews of the Governor’s proposed budget continued in committees of both the House and Senate this week. Several House Committees also reviewed the report of the Select Committee on Racial Justice noted above. In addition, the following committees discussed these early care and education/school age care issues during the week of February 1 - 5:

House Early Childhood Committee received presentations on Economics of the Early Care and Learning Sector and Child Care Services at the Minnesota Department of Human Services.

Senate Human Services Licensing Committee

- **SF 269-Kiffmeyer:** Family child care regulation modernization project establishment; appropriation.
Passed/Referred to Human Services Reform

- **SF 297-Abeler:** Human Services Background Study Disqualification Review Task Force establishment and appropriation. *Passed/Referred to State Government Finance and Policy*

House Education Finance Committee

- **HF 217-Hassan:** Teachers of Color and American Indian Teachers (TOCAI) Act. *Bill was laid over for consideration in the omnibus bill or further action.*

Senate Jobs committee

- **HF 300- Koran:** FATHER project appropriation. *Bill was laid over for consideration in the omnibus bill.*

BILL INTRODUCTIONS

This list includes topics, numbers, authors, and general committee referrals for bills introduced during the week of February 1 - 5. For more information about each bill, or to see all of the bills introduced, please download our weekly [Bill Tracker](#).

- Community education teacher continuing contract and tenure status provisions modified (**HF 505-Lee/SF 631-Cwodinski**)
- Preschool and kindergarten screen time limit; appropriation (**HF 570-Morrison/SF 237-Cwodinski**)
- Full-service community schools grant appropriations (**HF 587-Murphy/SF 199-Wiger**)
- Minnesota Reads task force established to review adult and children literacy programs (**HF 591-Christensen/SF 45-Wiger**)
- FATHER Project grant appropriation (**HF 610-Noor/SF 300-Koran**)
- ParentChild+ program funding provided (**HF 617-Youakim**)
- Dignity in Pregnancy and Childbirth Act established, anti-racism training and implicit bias continuing education required, commissioner of health maternal death studies expanded to include maternal morbidity (**HF 660-Richardson**)
- Child care for children with disabilities access expansion grants (**HF 668-Wazlawik**)
- Teacher licensure requirement for early education programs established (**HF 711-Sandell**)
- After-school community learning programs modified (**HF 786-Lee**)
- COVID-19 executive orders human services programs background study requirements modifications waiver extension (**SF 496-Utke**)
- Child care providers administrative law procedures modification (**SF 517-Kiffmeyer**)
- Municipal officers or employees personal child care providers licensing liability exemption modifications (**SF 518-Kiffmeyer**)
- Black Men Teach Twin Cities grant authorized to increase the number of black male teachers (HF 517-Kresha/**SF 526-Koran**)

COMMITTEE DEADLINES

Friday, March 12 — Committees must act favorably on bills in the house of origin.

Friday, March 19 — Committees must act favorably on bills, or companions of bills, that met the first deadline in the other body.

Friday, April 9 — Committees must act favorably on major appropriation and finance bills.