



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE, February 23, 2021

Welcome to the sixth 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

Several committees began the process this week of hearing bills and laying them over for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill. This is a common process for bills that do not need to move independently to the floor of the House or Senate.

These omnibus bills will be crafted in March, once the February budget forecast is out and the committees receive budget targets, letting them know how much they can spend.

COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

The following committees discussed these early care and education/school age care issues during the week of Feb. 15-19:

House Early Childhood Finance and Policy Committee

- **HF 5** (Pinto) COVID-19; state appropriations replaced with federal funds, child care providers public health support funds funding provided, basic sliding fee program. **Laid over for consideration.**
- **HF 1024** (Pinto) Department of Early Childhood established, and rulemaking authorized. **Passed and re-referred to Education Finance**
- **HF 910** (Kotzya-Witthuhn) Early childhood program participation required by children in foster care. **Laid over for consideration.**
- **HF 668** (Wazlawik) Child care for children with disabilities access expansion grants. **Laid over for consideration.**

House Education Finance Committee

- **HF 1064** (Davnie) Governor's Summer School Bill. **Laid over for consideration.**
- **HF 587** (Murphy) Full-service community schools. **Laid over for consideration.**

House Labor, Industry, Veteran's and Military Affairs Finance and Policy Committee

- **HF 357** (Koegel) Expanding applicability of pregnancy accommodations. *Laid over for consideration.*

Senate Human Services Licensing Policy Committee

- **S.F. 517** (Kiffmeyer) Child care providers administrative law procedures modification. *Bill Passed as amended and re-referred to Human Services Reform Finance and Policy*
- **S.F. 827** (Utke) Group family day care child-adult capacity ratios and age distribution restrictions modifications. *Bill Passed as amended and re-referred to Human Services Reform Finance and Policy*

Senate Education Finance and Policy Committee

- **SF 237** (Cwodzinski) Preschool and kindergarten screen time limit. *Laid over for consideration.*
- **SF 788** (Chamberlain) Governor's Policy Bill – Prekindergarten through grade 12 general education. *Laid over for consideration.*
- **SF 960** (Chamberlain) Governor's Finance Bill – Prekindergarten through grade 12 education. *Laid over for consideration.*
- **SF 973** (Chamberlain) Governor's Summer Education Bill. *Laid over for consideration.*

Senate Higher Education Finance and Policy Committee

- **SF 526** (Koran) Black Men Teach Twin Cities grant authorized to increase the number of black male teachers. *Laid over for consideration.*
- **SF 797** (Abeler) Increase Teachers of Color Act in higher education strengthened, and student teacher grants and teacher shortage loan forgiveness provisions modified. *Laid over for consideration.*

Senate Human Services Reform Finance and Policy Committee

- **HF 60** (Koegel) Parental notice of and participation required in maltreatment determination reconsideration and human services licensing sanction appeal hearings. *Laid over for consideration.*

BILL INTRODUCTIONS

This list includes topics, numbers, authors, and general committee referrals for bills introduced during the week of **February 15-19**. For more information about each bill, or to see all of the bills introduced, please download our weekly [Bill Tracker](#).

- Individual income tax child care professional supply and retention credit; appropriation (**HF 1125-Pryor/SF 934-Nelson**)
- Child care assistance program modified (**HF 1126-Pryor**)
- Pregnant women and family home visiting program established, and money appropriated (**HF 1197-Bahner**)
- Paid family, pregnancy, bonding, and applicant's serious medical condition benefits provided; employment leaves regulated and required (**HF 1200-Richardson/SF 1205-Kent**)
- Healthy development of babies during pregnancy and postpartum grant for black, indigenous, or people of color families funding provided; and money appropriated (**HF 1268-Richardson**)
- Early care and education affordability and workforce compensation established, report required, and money appropriated (**HF 1278-Boldon**)

- Department of education early learning scholarship appropriations (**HF 1293-Kotyza-Witthuhn/SF 705-Nelson**)
- Governor's budget for jobs and economic development established (**HF 1342-Noor/SF 1098-Pratt**)
- Governor's MDH Policy Bill (**HF 1075-Liebling/ SF 981-Wiklund**)
- Child care assistance and child care provider provisions modifications (**SF 1013-Housley**)
- Head Start appropriation distribution modified, and money appropriated (**HF 911-Kotyza-Witthuhn/SF 1014-Nelson**)
- Nursing mothers, lactating employees, and pregnancy accommodations amended (**HF 357-Koegel/SF 1180-Coleman**)
- Prenatal substance use reporting requirements modifications (**HF 1026-Morrison/SF1182-Benson**)
- Early childhood program participation required by children in foster care (**HF 910-Kotyza-Witthuhn/SF 1185-Coleman**)

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.