



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE | February 7, 2022

Welcome to the Child Care Aware Legislative update. The updates from the full session, along with our Bill Trackers, can be found 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

Early Childhood related committees held their first hearings last week, which focused on overviews of the work done since the last session and initial conversations about extending child care-related waivers that expired after the Governor's Executive Authority ended.

Next week, presentations of the Governor's budget will begin, as well hearings on several bills introduced last week.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Here are the committee discussions that took place during the week of January 30-February 4, 2022:

- **The House Early Childhood Committee** received overviews from the various departments that received funding last session to carry out early childhood-related work (MN Departments of Human Services, Education, Management and Budget/Children's Cabinet, and Employment and Economic Development).
- **The House Human Services Finance and Policy Committee** heard HF 2914 (Schultz), which would allow the Human Services Commissioner to reinstate waivers and modifications. The bill was adopted as amended and re-referred to the Health Finance and Policy Committee.
- **The Senate Human Services Reform Finance and Policy Committee** began discussing SF 2876 (Abeler), which would allow the Human Services Commissioner to reinstate waivers and modifications. No action was taken on the bill. Discussion will resume during the week of February 7-11.

BILL INTRODUCTIONS

This list includes topics, numbers, authors, and general committee referrals for bills filed during the week of January 31-Feb. 4. For more information about each bill or to see all of the bills introduced, please download [our weekly Bill Tracker](#).

- Maternal death studies expanded to include maternal morbidity (HF 2654-Richardson)
- Voluntary prekindergarten and school readiness plus program expansion made permanent, and money appropriated (HF 2655-Bernardy)
- Education partnership programs funding increase and grant awards specification appropriation (HF 2658-Wolgamott/SF 2804-Nelson)
- Head Start appropriation distribution modified, and money appropriated (HF 2660-Kotyza-Witthuhn)
- Child care staffing and group size rules modification (HF 2817-Rasmusson/SF 2751-Eken)
- Commissioner of human services required to award minimum base grant amount to eligible family and group family child care home and legal nonlicensed child care providers (HF 2842-Quam)
- Human services commissioner allowed to reinstate waivers and modifications (HF 2914-Schultz/SF 2876-Abeler)
- Commissioner of human services allowed to reinstate child care program waivers and modifications (HF 2927-Pinto)
- Child care employee non-compete agreements prohibited (HF 3009-Stansted/SF 2837-Tomassoni)
- Special education tuition billing working group established, and report required (HF 2751-Youakim)

TIMELINES

Friday, March 25 - Committees must act favorably on bills in the house of origin

Friday, April 1 - Committees must act favorably on bills, or companions of bills, that met the first deadline in the other body

Friday, April 8 - Committees must act favorably on major appropriation and finance bills

April 9-18 - Legislative Break

Monday, May 23 - Last day of session