



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE | February 21, 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

The biggest news from last week was Tuesday's release of the [redrawn legislative districts map](#) that will direct the state's elections for the next ten years. The state is constitutionally required to redraw the boundaries of its voting districts to reflect population growth and shifts based on each 10-year Census. Each district must have roughly the same number of people, so districts with a lower population or less growth are expanded geographically while the boundaries of faster-growing districts shrink.

These are the maps that will be used this fall when all 201 Legislators are up for re-election. Since some currently seated Legislators are now in the same district based on the new maps, there may be shifts in who will be running for each seat.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Here are the committee discussions that took place during the week of February 14-18, 2022:

- **The House Workforce and Business Development Committee** heard HF 1200 (Richardson), a bill that would establish a Paid Family Medical Leave program in Minnesota. The bill was laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill.
- **The House Education Finance Committee** heard HF 3079 (Hassan), a bill to strengthen the Increase Teachers of Color Act. The bill was laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill.
- **The House Tax Committee** heard HF 3283 (Kotzya-Witthuhn) to expand dependent care credit and establish great start child care credit. The bill was laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill.
- **The Senate Finance Committee** heard SF 2876 (Abler), which reinstates and extends the COVID-19 program waivers (including those impacting child care). The bill passed and was sent to General Orders.

BILL INTRODUCTIONS

This list includes topics, numbers, authors, and general committee referrals for bills filed during the week of February 14-18. For more information about each bill or to see all of the bills introduced, please download [our weekly Bill Tracker](#).

- Prekindergarten through grade 12 education provisions modifications (HF 3401-Richardson/SF 2822 Chamberlain)
- Child care basic sliding fee temporary priorities made permanent (HF 3484-Pryor)
- School-age care program child age range increased, school-age care program funding increased, and money appropriated (HF 3485-Pryor)
- Premium assistance program creation for child care workers (HF 3513-Koegel/SF 2002-Putnam)
- Staffing and group size requirements of certified, license-exempt child care centers amended (HF 3530-Wolgamott)
- Reach Out and Read Minnesota program grant funding provided, and money appropriated (HF 3544-Kotyza-Witthuhn)
- Full-service community school funding provided, and money appropriated (HF 3587-Vang/SF 3233-Isaacson)
- Family, friend, and neighbor caregivers grant program funding provided, and money appropriated (HF 3591-Howard/SF 3313-Wiklund)
- Community education programming funding increased, and money appropriated (HF3596-Edelson)
- Pregnant and parenting homeless youth study establishment and appropriation; homeless youth act grants appropriation (SF 3263-Dibble)
- Calculation of early childhood family education revenue modification; administrative costs money transfer authorization (SF 3341-Housley)

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Thursday, March 10** - Early Childhood Legislative Virtual Briefing. [Register here](#)
- **Wednesday, March 16** - Advocacy for Children Day Virtual Rally. [Register here](#)

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