



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE | March 29, 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

On Tuesday, March 22, the House Early Childhood Finance and Policy Committee received a presentation on the status of the [Child Care Regulation Modernization Projects](#) underway at the Minnesota Department of Human Services.

Friday, March 25 marked the first committee deadline of the Legislative Session. This means that bills must have received a hearing in all relevant committees in at least one body (House or Senate) to continue to advance. With the second deadline scheduled for Friday, April 1, there will be many hearings this week on bills that have met the first deadline in the other body. Bills that have met the first deadline are highlighted in yellow on this week's [bill tracker](#).

COMMITTEE ACTION

Here are the committee discussions that took place during the week of March 21-25, 2022:

- **The House Early Childhood Finance and Policy Committee** heard:
 - HF 3530 (Wolgamott); staffing and group size requirements of certified, license-exempt child care centers amended. The bill was laid over for possible inclusion in a committee omnibus bill.
 - HF 4228 (Pinto) Early childhood program supplemental funding provided, and money appropriated. The bill was laid over for possible inclusion in a committee omnibus bill.
 - HF 4569 (Pinto), modifying provisions governing child care assistance; making forecast adjustments; requiring reports; transferring money; making technical and conforming changes; allocating funds for a specific purpose; establishing certain grants; appropriating money. This was an informational hearing.
 - HF 2817 (Rasmussen); child care center staffing and group size rules amended, and report required. This was laid over for possible inclusion in a committee omnibus bill.
 - HF 3783 (Olson, L.); child care grant program funding provided, previous appropriation modified for child care work, and money appropriated. This was referred to the Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy Committee.

- **The House Health Finance and Policy Committee** heard HF 3513 (Koegel), creating a premium assistance program for child care workers. This was laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill.
- **The House Ag. Policy Committee** heard HF 4120 (Lippert), increasing farm-to-school grant funding and authorizing reimbursement of child care providers who purchase from local farmers. This was referred to the Early Childhood Finance and Policy Committee.
- **The House Human Services Finance & Policy Committee** heard HF 3815 (Moran), the Quality Parenting Initiative. The bill was laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill.
- **The House Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy Committee** heard HF 4278 (Kotzyza-Witthuhn), appropriating money for a study of the early childhood education workforce. The bill was laid over.
- **The House Education Policy Committee** heard HF 3401 (Richardson), the Omnibus Education Policy bill. This passed as amended and was re-referred to the Education Finance Committee.
- **The Senate Human Services Reform Committee** heard:
 - SF 3379 (Wiklund); basic sliding fee child care temporary priorities permanency establishment. The bill was laid over.
 - SF 3720 (Torres Ray); Quality Parenting Initiative appropriation. The bill was laid over.
 - SF 4165 (Abeler), the Human Services Reform Policy bill for human services forecast adjustments authorization and appropriation. This was passed and referred to the Committee on Finance.
- **The Senate Higher Education Committee** heard SF 3510 (Tomassoni), the Governor’s supplemental Higher Education bill. The bill was laid over.

BILL INTRODUCTIONS

This list includes topics, numbers, authors, and general committee referrals for bills filed during the week of March 21-25. For more information about each bill, or to see all of the bills introduced, please download [our weekly Bill Tracker](#).

- Farm-to-school grant funding increased, child care providers who purchase from local farmers reimbursement authorized, and money appropriated (HF 4120-Lippert/SF 4310-Goggin)
- After-school community learning programs modified, report required, and money appropriated (HF 4502-Lee/SF 4308-Isaacson)
- Child care assistance governing provisions modified, forecast adjustments made, reports required, money transferred, technical and conforming changes made, funds allocated for a specific purpose, grants established (HF 4569-Pinto)
- Voluntary prekindergarten obsolete language removed (HF 4570-Pinto)
- Human services forecast adjustments made, and money appropriated (HF 4579-Schultz/SF 4165-Abeler)
- Early childhood scholarship program and quality rating improvement system modified, and money appropriated (HF 4996-Robbins)
- Child care and early learning program information technology and data practices report required, and money appropriated (HF 4997-Pinto)

TIMELINES

- **Friday, April 1** - Committees must act favorably on bills, or companions of bills, which 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