



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE | FEBRUARY 28, 2023

Welcome to the latest Child Care Aware Legislative update. 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 action that has been taken at the committee level or on the floor, a brief overview of bills that have been introduced, 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

Due to last week's snowstorm, activity at the Capitol was suspended and all hearings and floor sessions were canceled as of Wednesday, February 22. A few hearings took place on Monday and Tuesday and some new bills were introduced during the first part of the week, which are outlined below.

The week of February 27 will bring the release of the "February Forecast," which will lay out the economic picture that will guide the final negotiations over the budget decisions for the remainder of the session. We will provide an overview of that information next week.

COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

Here are the committee discussions that took place during the week of February 20-24, 2023:

- **The House Human Services Policy Committee** heard HF 1198 (Hanson, J) – Child care assistance expanded to certain families, grants and rules regarding children's mental health expanded and modified, transition to community initiative modified, mental health staff training requirements modified. The bill passed as amended and re-referred to the Children and Families Committee.
- **The Senate Human Services Committee** heard SF 2 (Mann) – Paid family, pregnancy, bonding, and applicant's serious medical condition benefits establishment and appropriation. The bill passed as amended and re-referred to the Jobs and Economic Development Committee.
- **The Senate Education Committee** heard SF 1240 (Putnam) – Support staff persons required for early childhood family education programs. The bill passed as amended and re-referred to the Education Finance Committee.

BILL INTRODUCTIONS

The following bills were introduced during the week of February 20-24. For more information about bills introduced to date, or to see all of the bills introduced, please download our weekly [Bill Tracker](#).

- HF 1994 (Pryor)/SF 2097 (Cwodziński) – ParentChild+ program funding provided, and money appropriated
- HF 2056 (Her)/SF 1719 (Putnam) – Education partnership program modification
- HF 2029 (Coulter) – Child care conditional license requirements modified, commissioner directed to create standardized visit time lines and requirements, definition of education amended, background study liaison created
- HF 2039 (Hemmingsen-Jaeger)/SF 2215 (Baldon) – Child care assistance program modified
- HF 2056 (Her)/SF 1719 (Putnam) – Education partnership program modification
- HF 2073 (Pelowski)/SF 2075 (Fateh) – Office of Higher Education, Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, University of Minnesota, and Mayo Clinic funding and policy related changes provided; scholarship and student aid programs created and modified; direct admissions program created
- HF 2095 (Richardson) – Terminology for pregnant persons modified, standards for chemical dependency in pregnancy and prenatal substance use modified
- HF 2106 (Kotyza-Witthuhn) – Employment qualifications modified for child care centers and amending child care center staffing rules
- HF 2115 (Olson, B.)/SF 2196 (Draheim) – Income and corporate franchise tax provisions modified, and tax credit for employer-provided child care expenses established
- HF 2150 (Hassan)/SF 2083 (Hoffman) – Isuroon funding provided to staff a crisis nursery funding provided, and money appropriated
- SF 2041 (Mohamed) – YWCA Minneapolis grant appropriation

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **March 22** - Advocacy Day for Children

DEADLINES

- **Friday, March 10** - Committees must act favorably on bills in the house of origin
- **Friday, March 24** - Committees must act favorably on bills, or companions of bills, which met the first deadline in the other body
- **Tuesday, April 4 by 5 p.m.** - Committees must act favorably on major appropriation and finance bills
- **April 4-April 10** - Legislative Recess
- **Monday, May 22** - Last day of session