



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE | March 21, 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

Nearly 60 committee hearings were held in the House alone last week, and many more are scheduled for this week in both bodies as the Legislature moves toward the second committee deadline on March 24. This is the deadline by which committees must act favorably on bills, or companions of bills, which met the first deadline in the other body.

This Wednesday, March 22, is Advocacy for Children Day. For over 20 years, hundreds of young children, parents, early childhood professionals, and advocates from across the state have come together to ask legislators to prioritize Minnesota's youngest children and go "All In For Our Kids." [Register online for Advocacy for Children Day](#).

COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

Here are the committee discussions that took place during the week of 13-17, 2023:

The House Children and Families Finance & Policy Committee heard:

- HF 2281 (Hill) – Early education teachers required to be licensed, and the definition of teacher modified under Public Employment Labor Relations Act. Laid over for possible inclusion.
- HF 2478 (Hill) – Way to Grow program funding provided. Laid over for possible inclusion.
- HF 1994 (Pryor) – ParentChild+ program funding provided. Laid over for possible inclusion.
- HF 2514 (Hassan) – YWCA Minneapolis grant established for early childhood and youth programming. Laid over for possible inclusion.
- HF 1806 (Clardy) – Assessment of school readiness required for children entering kindergarten. Laid over for possible inclusion.
- HF 2330 (Coulter) – Provisions dealing with child care safety and correction orders, human services licensing qualifications, infant safety, and foster care and child care training modified. Laid over for possible inclusion.
- HF 993 (Coulter) – Education finance; developmental screening aid increased. Laid over for possible inclusion.

- HF 2573 (Kotzya-Witthuhn) – Early childhood apprenticeship program established; funding provided for apprenticeship program, early childhood workforce development scholarships, and grants to postsecondary institutions to improve early childhood program curricula. Laid over for possible inclusion.
- HF 2665 (Hicks) – Diaper distribution grant program established. Laid over for possible inclusion.
- HF 2293 (Pinto) – Obsolete language removed from early childhood family education statutes. Referred to the General register.
- HF 2476 (Pinto) – Child care assistance; obsolete language removed. Referred to the General register.
- HF 2698 (Pinto) – Child care assistance; obsolete language removed. Referred to Ways and Means
- HF 2565 (Pinto) – Early childhood programs provided. Laid over for possible inclusion.
- HF 2910 (Pinto) – Governor's Budget Bill for the Department of Human Services. Laid over for possible inclusion.

The House Education Finance Committee heard:

- HF 2067 (Her) – Education partnership program modified. Laid over for possible inclusion.
- HF 2497 (Youakim) – Prekindergarten through grade 12 education funding provided; general education, education excellence, teacher, special education, facilities, nutrition, libraries, early childhood, community education, and state agencies provisions modified. Laid over for possible inclusion.
- HF 2320 (Pinto) – Children's cabinet modified; Department of Children, Youth, and Families established; responsibilities of Department of Education, Department of Human Services, and Department of Public Safety transferred to Department of Children, Youth, and Families. Re-referred to Committee on Children and Families.

The House Education Policy Committee heard:

- HF 1269 (Pryor) – Prekindergarten through grade 12 provisions modified, including general education accountability and transparency, education excellence. Re-referred to Education Finance.

The House Human Services Policy Committee heard:

- HF 2712 (Fischer) – Procedure for sanctions modified, background studies conducted by the Department of Human Services modified. Re-referred to Health Finance and Policy Committee.

The House Workforce Development Committee heard:

- HF 2184 (Norris) – Minneapolis; YWCA grant funding. Laid over for possible inclusion.
- HF 2356 (Hussein) – Sanneh Foundation funding provided. Laid over for possible inclusion.
- HF 2526 (Hassan) – FATHER Project grant funding provided. Laid over for possible inclusion.

The House State and Local Government Committee heard:

- HF 2099 (Richardson) – Task Force on Pregnancy Health and Substance Use Disorders established. Re-referred to Health Finance and Policy Committee.

The House Public Safety Committee heard:

- HF 2322 (Pinto) – Children's cabinet modified; Department of Children, Youth, and Families established; responsibilities of Department of Education, Department of Human Services, and Department of Public Safety transferred to Department of Children, Youth, and Families. Re-referred to Committee on Children and Families Finance and Policy.

The Senate Health and Human Services Committee heard:

- SF 2229 (Wiklund) – Child care assistance eligibility and co-payment requirements. Laid over for possible inclusion.
- SF 2499 (Abeler) – Fees provided and waived for certified birth records. Re-referred to Transportation Committee.
- SF 2606 (Baldon) – Early childhood apprentice program establishment and appropriation. Passed and re-referred to Labor Committee.

The Senate Human Services Committee heard:

- HF 19 (Pappas) – Earned sick and safe time provision and appropriation. Re-referred to Finance Committee.
- SF 2139 (Morrison) – Task Force on Pregnancy Health and Substance Use Disorders establishment. Re-referred to Health and Human Services Committee.

The Senate Education Finance Committee heard:

- SF 2684 (Kunesh) – Funding provision for prekindergarten through grade 12 education. Laid over for possible inclusion.
- SF 2399 (Wiklund) – Department of Children, Youth, and Families establishment; children's cabinet modification. Laid over for possible inclusion.

The Senate Education Policy Committee heard:

- SF 2777 (Kunesh) – Childhood family education statutes obsolete language removal. Referred to Education Finance Committee.

The Senate Higher Education Committee heard:

- SF 2075 (Fateh) – Funding and policy related changes provision for the Office of Higher Education, Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, the University of Minnesota, and the Mayo Clinic. Laid over for possible inclusion.
- SF 1177 (Putnam) – Workforce development provisions modifications; Board of Trustees of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities appropriation for workforce for development. Laid over for possible inclusion.

BILL INTRODUCTIONS

The following bills were introduced during the week of March 13-17. For more information about bills introduced to date, or to see all of the bills introduced, please download our weekly [Bill Tracker](#).

- HF 1403 (Fischer)/SF 2808 (Hoffman) – Governor's DHS Policy Bill
- HF 2698 (Pinto)/SF 2831 (Wiklund) – Child care assistance: obsolete language removed
- HF 2712 (Fischer)/SF 2819 (Wiklund) – Procedure for sanctions modified background studies conducted by Department of Human Services modified
- HF 2842 (Wolgamott)/SF 1177 (Putnam) – Workforce development provisions modifications; Board of Trustees of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities appropriation for workforce for development
- HF 2910 (Pinto)/SF 2890 (Wiklund) – Governor's DHS Finance Bill
- HF 2930 (Liebling)/SF 2995 (Wiklund) – Governor's Health Finance Bill
- SF 2905 (Dibble) – Funding provision for prekindergarten through grade 12 education

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