



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE | March 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

Last week brought an agreement between legislative leaders and Governor Walz on the session's budget targets, with nearly \$18 billion in new spending proposed. Lawmakers now have the framework they need to assemble the 2023 omnibus bills that will comprise the bulk of the state's budget for the next two fiscal years. This will be the focus of the work this week, with all finance bills required to be completed by April 4.

COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

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

The House Children & Families Committee heard:

- HF 1074 (Brand) – Minnesota Initiative Foundations funding provided. The bill was re-referred to the Economic Development Finance and Policy Committee.
- HF 2451 (Bahner) – Greater Twin Cities United Way grant program funding provided for trauma-sensitive care in preschool settings, and money appropriated. The bill was laid over.
- HF 2292 (Pinto) – Obsolete language removed from voluntary prekindergarten statutes. The bill was re-referred to Education Finance.

The House Human Services Finance Committee heard:

- HF 1184 (Clardy) – Statewide parent-to-parent program for families of children and youth with special health care needs funding provided, and money appropriated. The bill was laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill.

The House Education Finance Committee heard:

- HF 1269 (Pryor) – Prekindergarten through grade 12 provisions modified, including general education accountability and transparency, education excellence, American Indian education, charter schools, discipline, teachers, special education, and early learning; and reports required. The bill was laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill.

- HF 2214 (Frazier) – Black Men Teach Twin Cities program grant authorized. The bill was laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill.
- HF 1629 (Perez-Vega) – Learning with Music program to early childhood educators expansion and appropriation. The bill was laid over.

The House Health Finance & Policy Committee heard:

- HF 2930 (Liebling) – Department of Health Budget Bill. The bill was re-referred to the Health Finance and Policy Committee.

The House Higher Education Committee heard:

- HF 2073 (Pelowski) – 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; reports required; and money appropriated. This was laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill.
- HF 2842 (Wolgamott) – Workforce development provisions modifications; Board of Trustees of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities appropriation for workforce development. This was laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill.

The House State and Local Government Finance & Policy Committee heard:

- HF 2321 (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; reports required; rulemaking authorized; and money appropriated. The bill was re-referred to the Children and Families Committee.

The Senate Education Policy Committee heard:

- SF 2373 (Kunesh) – Obsolete language removed from voluntary prekindergarten statutes.

The Senate Health & Human Services heard:

- SF 1638 (Kunesh) – Quality Parenting Initiative appropriation. This was laid over for possible inclusion.
- SF 1639 (Kunesh) – Informal kinship caregiver support grant program established; financial support expanded for adoptive, foster, and kinship families. The bill was laid over for possible inclusion.
- SF 2923 (Morrison) – Medical assistance reimbursement rates increase for doula services. The bill was laid over for possible inclusion.
- SF 2819 (Wiklund) – Governor's HHS Policy bill. This bill was sent to General Orders.
- SF 2966 (Wiklund) – Governor's HHS Budget bill. The bill was laid over.
- SF 2212 (Wiklund) – Department of Health Policy bill. This bill was sent to General Orders.
- SF 2995 (Wiklund) – Department of Health Budget bill. This bill was laid over.

The Senate Human Services Committee heard:

- SF 2934 (Hoffman) – Governor's Human Services budget. The bill was laid on the table.
- SF 2818 (Hoffman) – Omnibus Human Services policy bill. The bill was sent to General Orders.

The Senate Jobs and Economic Development Committee heard:

- SF 2 (Mann) – Paid family leave. The bill was re-referred to the Finance Committee.

The Senate Judiciary Committee heard:

- SF 2400 (Wiklund) – 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. The bill was re-referred to the Health and Human Services Committee.

BILL INTRODUCTIONS

The following bills were introduced during the week of March 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 3028 (Hassan)/SF 3035 (Champion) – Department of Employment and Economic Development, Public Utilities Commission, and Explore Minnesota biennial budget established; governing provisions modified
- HF 3051 (Bahner)/SF 3138 (Hoffman) – Department of Human Services reporting and licensing changes implemented for a provider licensing and reporting hub

DEADLINES

- **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