



## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE | April 25, 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

There was a flurry of activity last week as several omnibus bills were heard and passed on the House and Senate Floor (see summary below). The conference committee process will likely begin with the naming of members this week.

On Wednesday, April 19, Governor Walz presented his State of the State address to a joint session of the House and Senate. His comments related to early childhood included the following:

“Our plan would give 150,000 Minnesota Households thousands of dollars each to help pay for daycare and to make sure that there’s enough spots for children. We’re going to make sure that there’s enough spots for children, we’re going to make it easier to start a child care business, and we’re going to give the professionals who care for our children at that critical stage a long overdue pay raise”.

“Focusing on family, focusing on our children, the plan adds 25,000 public pre-K seats to make sure there is a place for your child. And it also invests in early learning scholarships for families who need it the most to make sure they get to make the choice that’s best for their family. Everyone in this room who’s a parent knows those first five years of your child’s life, nothing gives you more anxiety than trying to balance work and family. And making great child care accessible and affordable will make that stress a whole lot less. And by the way, so will universal paid leave”.

### OMNIBUS BILL STATUS/ACTION

Below is an overview of each of the omnibus bills and their status as of April 21. We will continue to keep you updated on progress.

Omnibus bill	Bill number-Author	Status
House Children and Families	HF 238- Pinto	Passed House Floor on vote of 70-60
House Education Finance	HF 2497-Youakim	Passed House Floor on a vote of 70-60
House Omnibus Pre-K language	HF 2292-Pinto	Passed House Floor on a vote of 71-57
House Health Finance	HF 2930-Liebling	On General Register (SF 2995)
House Higher Ed Finance	HF 2073-Pelowski	Passed House Floor on vote of 69-58

House Economic Development	HF 3028-Hassan	On General Register (SF 3035)
House Tax Bill	HF 1938- Gomez	On General Register
Senate HHS Finance	SF 2995-Wiklund	Passed Senate Floor on vote of 35-32
Senate Education Finance	SF 2684-Kunesh	On General Orders (HF 2497)
Senate Higher Ed Finance	SF 2075-Fateh	Passed House Floor on vote of 36-31
Senate Jobs & Economic Development	SF 3035-Champion	Passed Senate Floor on a vote of 35-31.
Senate Tax Bill	TBA	

## COMMITTEE ACTION

The **House Tax Committee** heard:

- HF 1938 (Gomez): The Omnibus Tax Bill. This bill would provide \$550 for married couples filing joint returns and \$275 for single and other filers, plus \$275 per dependent for up to three dependents. Credits would be based on 2021 incomes. In addition to those \$275 credits per kid, there would be an overhaul of [the working family credit](#), transforming it into a credit that could be worth up to \$1,175 per child. It would also increase the education credit's phaseout threshold and maximum credit. The bill passed as amended and was re-referred to the Ways and Means Committee.

## BILL INTRODUCTIONS

The following bills were introduced during the week of April 17-21. For more information about bills introduced to date, or to see all of the bills introduced, please download our weekly [Bill Tracker](#).

- SF 3274 (Duckworth): Reading instruction based on the science of reading requirement; reading reset account establishment; student and staff safety measures inclusion in each school districts long-term facilities maintenance school facility plan; school security grants creation; appropriating money
- HF 3272 (Kresha): Providing funding for prekindergarten through grade 12 education; modifying provisions for general education, literacy and learning, special education, education innovation, and education excellence; making forecast adjustments

## DEADLINES

- **May 22** - Last day of session.