



# FFN Policy Call

April 22, 2025

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# Important Dates

**April 29 (Day 70)-** Budget bills must be placed on General File

**May 6-** Budget debate begins and next policy call (1:30pm)

**May 15 (Day 80)-** Budget debate must conclude and interim studies must be introduced before or on this date

**June 9-** Last day of session

# Federal Updates

## Head Start

- Closure of 5 regional Head Start offices
- FY26 draft budget document calls for the elimination of Head Start
  - Would impact over 5,500 children in Nebraska
- Launched social media campaign to raise awareness on Head Start

# Child Care Subsidy

**LB13-** Require the Department of Health and Human Services to file a state plan amendment relating to child care

- Placed on Select File on March 11. Senator Cavanaugh's priority bill.

**LB71-** Change requirements for child care reimbursement rates

- HHS Committee hearing was on Jan. 23

**LB95-** Provide for a pilot program under the federal Child Care Subsidy program

- HHS Committee hearing on Feb. 12

# Child Care Subsidy

**LB304-** Eliminate a sunset date for the federal Child Care Subsidy program

- HHS Committee hearing was on Feb. 6

**LB339-** Require the Department of Health and Human Services to provide a report regarding the federal Child Care Subsidy program

- This bill will not move forward. The Department will make this change administratively.

**LB442-** Establish a state Child Care Subsidy program

- HHS Committee hearing was on March 14

# Child Care- Workforce

- LB51-** Adopt the National Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact
- Passed on Final Reading (48-0-1) and approved by the Governor on Feb. 25
- LB363-** Adopt the Apprenticeship Grant Act
- Business and Labor hearing was on Feb. 10

# Child Care- Programs and Operations

**LB248-** Exempt certain program from child care licensing requirements

- Passed on Final Reading (47-0-2) and approved by the Governor on April 7

**LB274-** Change requirements under the Child Care Licensing Act for liability insurance coverage and inspections and investigations

- Placed on General File with AM84 on March 26

# Child Care- Safety and Security

**LB162-** Adopt the Child Care Safety and Security Act

- HHS Committee hearing was on Jan. 29

**LB457-** Require anaphylaxis policies for school districts and licensed child care facilities and provide a limit on the amount an insured is required to pay by an insurance policy or benefit plan for epinephrine injectors

- Passed on Final Reading (47-1-1) and approved by the Governor on April 14

**LB670-** Require schools to adopt a safety plan and provide and change requirements related to training for staff of child care and schools

- Education Committee hearing was on Feb. 4

# Child Care- Accessibility

**LB74-** Authorize certain expenditures under the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act

- Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee was on Feb. 6

**LB94-** Adopt the Digital Skills Empowerment Act and change the use of the Workforce Development Program Cash Fund

- Business and Labor Hearing was on Feb. 3

# Child Care- Budget and Taxes

## **LB157-** Adopt the Child Tax Credit Act

- Revenue Committee hearing was on March 19

## **LB161-** Redefine formula students under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act

- Education Committee hearing was on Feb. 10

## **LB182-** Change provisions relating to the Affordable Housing Tax Credit Act and the Child Care Tax Credit Act

- Passed on Final Reading (46-2-1) and approved by the Governor on Feb. 28

# Child Care- Budget and Taxes

**LB264-** Provide, change, and eliminate transfers from the Cash Reserve Fund and various other funds and change, terminate, and eliminate various statutory programs.

- Appropriations Committee hearing was on Feb. 18

**LB710-** Increase the earned income tax credit

- Revenue Committee hearing was on Feb. 19

**Department of Education Budget Request**

- Appropriations Committee hearing was on Feb. 27

# Child Care- Budget and Taxes

**LB583-** Change provisions relating to the rate and disbursement of the documentary stamp, the Child Care Grant Fund, child care grants, the Military Installation Development and Support Fund, the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, the Innovation Hub Cash Fund, the Economic Recovery Contingency Fund, and the Health Care Homes for the Medically Underserved Fund

- Revenue Committee hearing was on Feb. 21

# Home Visiting

**LB22-** Require the Department of Health and Human Services to file a state plan amendment for evidence-based nurse home-visitation services

- Passed on Final Reading (47-0-2) and approved by the Governor on April 9

**LB104-** Adopt the Family Home Visitation Act

- Included in AM348 to LB22 on Select File. See above.

# Maternal and Child Health

**LB41-** Change blood test requirements for pregnant women

- Passed on Final Reading (47-0-2) and approved by the Governor on April 9

**LB153-** Require the Department of Health and Human Services to file a state plan amendment for postpartum coverage

- HHS Committee hearing was on March 14

**LB446-** Change provisions relating to release of health data

- HHS Committee hearing was on Feb. 27

# Maternal and Child Health

**LB189-** Adopt the Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Act

- Business and Labor Committee hearing was on March 17

**LB224-** Require paid maternity leave for state employees

- Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee hearing was on Feb. 21. Senator Guereca's priority bill.

**LB283-** Require the Department of Health and Human Services to implement express lane eligibility

- HHS Committee hearing was on March 13

# Advocacy and Engagement

Applications for the next Policy Leadership Academy (PLA) class open May 5

Next Tuesday Talks will be May 13 at 1:30pm

Would you like to get involved in early childhood advocacy? Please contact Jodi-Renee Girón at [jgiron@firstfivebraska.org](mailto:jgiron@firstfivebraska.org)



**Questions?**



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