

FFN Policy Call

February 25, 2025

Elizabeth Everett, Deputy Director
Sara Howard, Policy Advisor
Mitch Clark, Policy Advisor
Michael Medwick, Strategic Communications
Jodi-Renee Giron, Grassroots and Advocacy Advisor

Important Dates

March 11- Next FFN Policy Call (1:30pm)

March 13- Deadline: Request a Speaker priority bill designation

March 14- Deadline: Designation of Senator and Committee priority bills

March 28- Final date for public hearings

March 31- Full-day floor debate begins



Child Care Subsidy

- **LB13** Require the Department of Health and Human Services to file a state plan amendment relating to child care
 - Placed on General File on Feb. 13
- 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

• HHS Committee hearing was on Feb. 6

LB442- Establish a state Child Care Subsidy program

HHS Committee hearing on March 14



Child Care- Workforce

- **LB51** Adopt the National Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact
 - Passed on Final Reading (48-0-1) and presented to the Governor on Feb. 21
- 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

Placed on General File on Feb. 10

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

• HHS Committee hearing was on Feb. 5



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

Placed on General File on Feb. 18

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

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 presented to the Governor on Feb. 21

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 on Feb. 18

LB710- Increase the earned income tax credit

Revenue Committee hearing on Feb. 19

Department of Education Budget Request

Appropriations Committee hearing 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 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

Placed on Select File on Feb. 18

LB104- Adopt the Family Home Visitation Act

• Placed on General File on Feb. 20



Maternal and Child Health

- LB41- Change blood test requirements for pregnant women
 - Placed on Select File on Feb. 18

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

HHS Committee hearing on March 14

LB446- Change provisions relating to release of health data

HHS Committee hearing on Feb. 27



Maternal and Child Health

LB189- Adopt the Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Act

Business and Labor Committee hearing on March 17

LB224- Require paid maternity leave for state employees

 Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee hearing on Feb. 21

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

HHS Committee hearing on March 13



School Readiness Tax Credit and Child Care Tax Credit Update

Tax Credit	Requested	Authorized	Cap*	%
Child Care Tax Credit - Nonrefundable (2024 contribution credit)	\$2,547,795	\$1,860,442	\$2.5M	74%
Child Care Tax Credit – Refundable (parents and legal guardians)	\$20,041,000	\$15,000,000	\$15M	100%
School Readiness Tax Credit – Nonrefundable & Refundable (combined)	\$7,518,000	\$6,606,800	\$7.5M	88%

Deadline for School Readiness Tax Credit Applications: March 1, 2025

^{*}Current as of 2/24/25

Questions?

Would you like to get involved in early childhood advocacy? Please contact Jodi-Renee Girón at jgiron@firstfivenebraska.org



FirstFiveNebraska.org

