

Early Childhood Policy and Budget Division

April 22, 2005

3:00 p.m. Room 107

Chair, Senator John C. Hottinger

Present:

Hottinger, Chair
Bob Kierlin
Gary Kubly
Sean Nienow
Sandy Pappas
Linda Scheid
Dan Sparks
Betsy Wergin

Absent:

Senator Hottinger called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

A quorum was present.

S.F. E-CHILD-ED -Hottinger: Omnibus Early Childhood Policy and Budget Bill

- Senator Hottinger introduced the bill and set for the agenda for the meeting.
- Joan White, Senate Counsel, went through the bill summary.
- Gayle L. Kelly, Executive Director, Minnesota Head Start Association, spoke to how the greatest way to get kids ready for school is to get them out of poverty.
- Nancy Gipson, Parent and Policy Council Chair, Lakes and Pines Community Action Council - Head Start, Mora, MN, was a low-income mother and thanked the committee for their continued support.
- Yang Lee, Family Service Worker Staff, Community Action Partnership for Ramsey and Washington Counties - Head Start, St. Paul, MN, thanked the committee for their continued support.
- Ai Vang, nurse and mother, spoke to how HeadStart helped her children.
- Kim Scanlan, Head Start Director, Three Rivers Community Action - Head Start, Zumbrota, MN, read a letter from another parent, which said that when programming is cut, only the children suffer. Ms. Scanlan also spoke about how bad the cuts are.
- Ann Kaner-Roth, Executive Director, Child Care Works, thanked the committee, and was excited about the positive target number.
- Chad Dunkley, President, Minnesota Childcare Association, is glad about not freezing provider rates. Mr. Dunkley said he is more than happy to accept the freeze if his operation costs are also frozen.
- Christina Macklin, Policy Analyst, Minnesota Council of Nonprofits, spoke about helping all aspects of life for people who are low-income, including child care.
- Willie Nesbit, Director of Community Education, St. Paul Public Schools, spoke about how the current money is being well used. Mr. Nesbit was advocating for a 3% increase in the ABE funding formula.
- Eric Nesheim, Executive Director, Minnesota Literacy Council, a non-profit organization thanked the committee for their work.
- Todd Otis, President, Ready 4 K, spoke to how this is an incredibly hopeful piece of legislation. Mr. Otis spoke how this is the best move since Arne Carlson's administration and there are many supporters.
- Byron Laher, United Way, wore his special tie for such a special bill.
- Andrea Ayres, Family and Children's Services, thanked the committee for the socio-economical screening potion.
- Sue Abderholden, National Alliance for the Mentally Ill of Minnesota, spoke about how early detection is the key to helping with mental illness.
- Kirk Schneidawind, Minnesota School Boards Association, is concerned about the under-funded portion of the screening.

MOTION: Senator Pappas moved on Page 5, Line 17 & 18 delete “and must not be maintained in the student record.”

Discussion:

- Julie Quist, EdWatch, spoke to the dangers of universal screening – at an early age it is hard to accurately screen and there is potential for labeling.
- Linda Sandveg, School Nurses’ Association, addressed the benefits of the motion.
- Karen Cadigan, Research Fellow at the University of Minnesota and school psychologist, spoke to how screens are helpful.

→ Motion withdrawn.

MOTION: Senator Wergin moved Page 5, Line 18 before the period insert “, unless the parent or guardian consents to the inclusions of the screening in the student record under Minnesota Statutes section 121A.17, subd 3, paragraph (b), clause(1).”

Page 7, Line 26 before the period insert “and either allowing or declining the inclusion of the screening in the student record.”

→ Motion carried.

MOTION: Senator Scheid moved the CHILDEDU-2 Amendment as amended.

- Karen Carlson, Department of Education, explained the amendment.

Amended language: Line 16, strike “school district” and insert “family”.

→ Motion carried.

MOTION: Senator Scheid moved the CHILDEDU-1 Amendment as amended.

Amended Language: Page 1, Line 3 insert numbers, Page "4", line "13"

Page 1, Line 4 insert numbers, Page "4", after line "16"

Page 1, Line 10 insert numbers, Page "16", after Line "35"

Page 1, Line 11 insert numbers, Sec "20"

→ Motion carried.

MOTION: Senator Nienow moved Page 19, Line 11, insert “A family making more than \$4,583 per month is not eligible for child care assistance.”

- Discussion: People had concerns about the number of family members, and inflation. Senator Hottinger said he would not support this amendment, but wanted to work with Senator Nienow to come up with good language.

→ Motion failed.

- Larry Fett, St. Paul ECFE Parent, introduced his daughter, Cora, age two. He spoke to how ECFE helped her become socialized with other children.

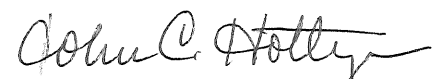
MOTION: Senator Nienow moved Page 19, Line 26 before the comma, insert “and other interested organizations.”

→ Motion carried.


MOTION: Senator Kubly moved that the E-CHILD-ED bill be referred to the Full Finance Committee as amended with the recommendation that the document be introduced as the Omnibus Early Childhood Appropriations Bill.

Senator Hottinger adjourned the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Senator John C. Hottinger
Division Chair



Jane Bowman
Division Secretary

Early Childhood Policy and Budget Division

Chair: Sen. John Hottinger

Friday, April 22, 2005

9 a.m. – 11 a.m.

Room 107 State Capitol

S.F. XXXX-Hottinger: Omnibus Early Childhood Policy and Budget Bill

- Gayle L. Kelly, Executive Director, Minnesota Head Start Association
- Nancy Gipson, Parent and Policy Council Chair, Lakes and Pines Community Action Council - Head Start, Mora, MN
- Yang Lee, Family Service Worker Staff, Community Action Partnership for Ramsey and Washington Counties - Head Start, St. Paul, MN
- Kim Scanlan, Head Start Director, Three Rivers Community Action - Head Start, Zumbrota, MN
- Ann Kaner-Roth, Executive Director, Child Care Works
- Chad Dunkley, President, Minnesota Childcare Association
- Christina Macklin, Policy Analyst, Minnesota Council of Nonprofits
- Willie Nesbit, Director of Community Education, St. Paul Public Schools
- Eric Nesheim, Executive Director, Minnesota Literacy Council
- Todd Otis, President, Ready 4 K
- Byron Laher, United Way
- Larry Fett, St. Paul ECFE Parent
- Andrea Ayres, Family and Children's Services
- Sue Abderholden, National Alliance for the Mentally Ill of Minnesota

Others