

Weekly Legislative Update: Early Care and Education

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This week we continue to see action on bills to increase access to quality early care and education consistent with the 2021 Fair Start for Kids Act (ESSS Bill 5237).

<u>HB 1199</u>, to prevent unreasonable restrictions on licensed child care in common interest communities such as condos, passed out of the House and has been referred to the Senate Law & Justice Committee.

<u>SB 5225</u> and <u>SB 5423</u> to increase child care assistance for families and <u>SB 5316</u> to eliminate background check and licensing fees are scheduled for Executive Session on February 1, 2023 at 4:00 pm in the Senate Committee on Early Learning & K-12.

Three early care and education bills are scheduled for public hearing in the House Committee on Human Services, Youth, & Early Learning at 1:30 pm on January 31. Please sign in PRO on these bills before 12:30 pm on January 31.

- HB 1451-Expanding the childcare workforce. Sign in PRO here.
- HB 1511-Calculation of income for certain early learning and child care programs. Sign in PRO here.
- HB 1525-Eligibility for Working Connections Child Care (Companion to SB 5423). Sign in PRO here.

How You Can Be Involved

- Using the links provided, weigh-in as an individual on bills supported by the LWVWA.
- Contact Karen Tvedt, ktvedt@lwvwa.org if you have questions.