

Weekly Legislative Update: **Early Care and Education**

Issue Chair: Karen Tvedt
Contact: ktvedt@lwwwa.org

March 12, 2023

Again, good news to report. The early care and education bills we have been supporting passed the Senate or House by the March 8 deadline and now go to the opposite chamber.

One bill, [HB 1199](#), licensed child care in common interest communities, had a positive public hearing in the Senate Law & Justice Committee on March 9 at 8:00 am.

Two early care and education bills are scheduled for public hearing this week:

- [2SSB 5225](#) to increase access to child care subsidies (Working Connections Child Care or WCCC) is scheduled for public hearing in House Human Services, Youth & Early Learning on March 14 at 1:30 pm. It's scheduled for executive session March 17 at 8:00 am. This bill would prohibit the state from considering immigration status in determining eligibility for WCCC and make it easier for homeless families to retain child care subsidies.
 - **You can help by signing-in [PRO](#) on 2SSB 5225 by 12:30 pm on March 14.**
- [HB 1525](#) would provide eligibility for WCCC for the first 12 months of enrollment in a state registered apprenticeship program. This bill is scheduled for public hearing on March 13 at 1:30 pm in the Senate Early Learning & K-12 Education Committee.
 - **To support this bill, sign-in [PRO](#) by 12:30 pm on March 13.**

How You Can Be Involved

- If you're interested in a particular bill, use the links above to go to the bill page. These pages include staff summaries and reports including who testified pro versus con on the bill. There is also information about how to access videos of hearings that have been held.
- Contact Karen Tvedt, ktvedt@lwwwa.org if you have questions.