



**Minnesota House of Representatives**

**Children and Families Finance and Policy Committee**

**Co-Chairs:** Rep. Carlie Kotyza-Witthuhn & Rep. Nolan West

**Vice-Chairs:** Rep. Jess Hanson & Rep. Nathan Nelson

Tuesday, April 8, 2025, at 3:00 PM

Capitol Room 123

**AGENDA**

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Approval of Minutes: Wednesday, April 2, 2025**
- 3. Walkthrough of DE1 Amendment to HF2436 (West) Children and Families Budget Bill**
  - a. Presenters:**
    - i. Doug Berg, Fiscal Analyst, House Fiscal Analysis Department
    - ii. Annie Mach, Legislative Analyst, House Research Department
    - iii. Sarah Sunderman, Legislative Analyst, House Research Department
    - iv. Danyell Punelli, Legislative Analyst, House Research Department
- 4. Remarks from Commissioner Tikki Brown, Minnesota Department of Children, Youth, and Families**
- 5. Testimony on DE1 Amendment to HF2436 (West) Children and Families Budget Bill**
  - a. In Person Testifiers:**
    - i. **Alexis Borges** (she/her), Foster Youth Outreach and Engagement Specialist, Office of the Foster Youth Ombudsperson
    - ii. **Courtney Griner**, Childcare Provider, Esko, MN
    - iii. **Bekah Kerfeld**
    - iv. **Commissioner Laurie Halverson**, Dakota County, Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC)
    - v. **Stacy Hennen**, Executive Director, Western Prairie; Director, Traverse County Social Services, Minnesota Association of County Social Service Administrators
    - vi. **Lisa Thompson**, Ombudsperson, Office of the Ombuds for Family Child Care Providers
    - vii. **Sydney Spreck**, Political Affairs Coordinator, MN Association of Professional Employees
    - viii. **Peter Woitock** (he/him), Government Relations Manager, The Food Group MN

- ix. **Ericca Maas**, Think Small
- x. **Clare Sanford**, Government Relations Chair, Minnesota Child Care Association
- xi. **Lisa Lane**, Chief External Affairs Officer, Open Arms of MN

b. Virtual Testifiers:

- i. **Shawntel Gruba**, Director, Owner, IRON RANGE TYKES Learning Center
- ii. **Karen DeVos** (she/her), Little Learners Early Childhood Centers
- iii. **Joe Piket**, Former Franchise Owner, Primrose School of Champlin Park
- iv. **Kathlyn S. McHenry**, Director of State Government Relations for the Early Care & Education Consortium
- v. **Austin Railey III**, Government Relations Representative – Midwest, KinderCare Learning Companies
- vi. **Dr. Lisa Hollensteiner**, MD; Board Chair, Safe Passage for Minnesota Children

6. Adjournment

*All agenda items are subject to change at the discretion of the Chair.*