

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES FINANCE POLICY MEETING MINUTES

Representative Kotyza-Witthuhn, Chair of the Children and Families Finance and Policy Committee, called the meeting to order at 3:00 PM on Tuesday, April 8, 2025, in Room 123 of the Capitol Building.

The Committee Legislative Assistant noted the roll.

Members present:

KOTYZA-WITTHUHN, Carlie, Co-Chair
WEST, Nolan, Co-Chair
HANSON, Jessica, Co-Vice Chair
NELSON, Nathan, Co-Vice Chair
ALTENDORF, Pam
COULTER, Nathan
HEMMINGSEN-JAEGER, Amanda
HICKS, Kim
MCDONALD, Joe
NADEAU, Danny
OLSON, Bjorn
PÉREZ-VEGA, María Isa
SENCER-MURA, Samantha
ZELEZNIKAR, Natalie

A quorum was present.

Representative Nelson moved the minutes of April 2, 2025. THE MOTION PREVAILED.

HF 2436 (West) - Children and Families Budget Bill

Chair West presented HF2436 and the DE1 amendment.


House Nonpartisan Staff provided an informational overview and walkthrough of the DE1 amendment.

Testifying on the bill:

- Christina and Cody Pech
- Janice Degonda
- Susanne Dickison
- Alexis Borgesen (she/her), Foster Youth Outreach and Engagement Specialist, Office of the Foster Youth Ombudsperson
- Shawntel Gruba, Director, Owner, IRON RANGE TYKES Learning Center
- Karen DeVos (she/her), Little Learners Early Childhood Centers
- Joe Piket, Former Franchise Owner, Primrose School of Champlin Park
- Bekah Kerfeld
- Courtney Griner, Childcare Provider, Esko, MN
- Commissioner Laurie Halverson, Dakota County, Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC)
- Stacy Hennen, Executive Director, Western Prairie; Director, Traverse County Social Services, Minnesota Association of County Social Service Administrators (MACSSA)
- Lisa Thompson, Ombudsperson, Office of the Ombuds for Family Child Care Providers
- Sydney Spreck, Political Affairs Coordinator, MN Association of Professional Employees
- Peter Woitock (he/him), Government Relations Manager, The Food Group MN
- Kathlyn S. McHenry, Director of State Government Relations for the Early Care & Education Consortium
- Virginia Witherspoon, Executive Director, Channel One, Rochester

- Austin Railey III, Government Relations Representative – Midwest, KinderCare Learning Companies
- Dr. Lisa Hollensteiner, MD; Board Chair, Safe Passage for Minnesota Children
- Ericca Maas, Think Small
- Clare Sanford, Government Relations Chair, Minnesota Child Care Association
- Lisa Lane, Chief External Affairs Officer, Open Arms of MN

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45PM.



Representative Kotyza-Witthuhn, Chair

Caleb Rohrer, Committee Legislative Assistant