



# Early Childhood Governance Trends and Legislative Activity

Thursday, February 18, 2021

Early Childhood Finance and Policy Committee

# How NCSL Strengthens Legislatures



## Policy Research

NCSL provides trusted, nonpartisan policy research and analysis



## Connections

NCSL links legislators and staff with each other and with experts



## Training

NCSL delivers training tailored specifically for legislators and staff



## State Voice in D.C.

NCSL represents and advocates on behalf of states on Capitol Hill



## Meetings

NCSL meetings facilitate information exchange and policy discussions

# Early Care and Education Project

*Prenatal through Prekindergarten*

## Legislative Tracking

- [ECE Legislative Tracking Database](#)
- [State Action on Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)

## Writing

- **Reports:**
  - [Time Off to Care: State Actions on Paid Family Leave](#)
  - [ECE State Budget Actions FY 2020](#)
- **Magazine articles:**
  - [Things to Know About Infants and Toddlers](#)
  - Child Care a Necessity for Rebuilding the Economy

## Convenings

- [State Policy 101 - Fridays in February](#)
- Virtual
- In-person

## Create

- A dedicated early childhood agency
- *Examples*
  - **Alabama** Department of Early Childhood Education
  - **New Mexico** Early Childhood Education and Care Department

## Consolidate

- Existing programs and divisions into one state agency
- *Example*
  - Division of Early Childhood Development at the **Maryland** State Department of Education

## Collaborate and Coordinate

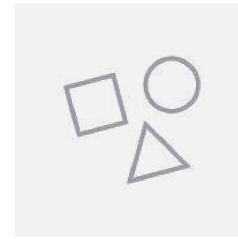
- Across different agencies
- *Example*
  - **Pennsylvania** Office of Child Development and Early Learning

# 2018-19 Early Childhood Governance Legislative Action



## 2018

- **Seven states** signed new bills into law
  - Alabama
  - Colorado
  - Hawaii
  - Louisiana
  - New York
  - Oklahoma
  - Washington
- Early Care & Education 2018 State Legislative Action Report

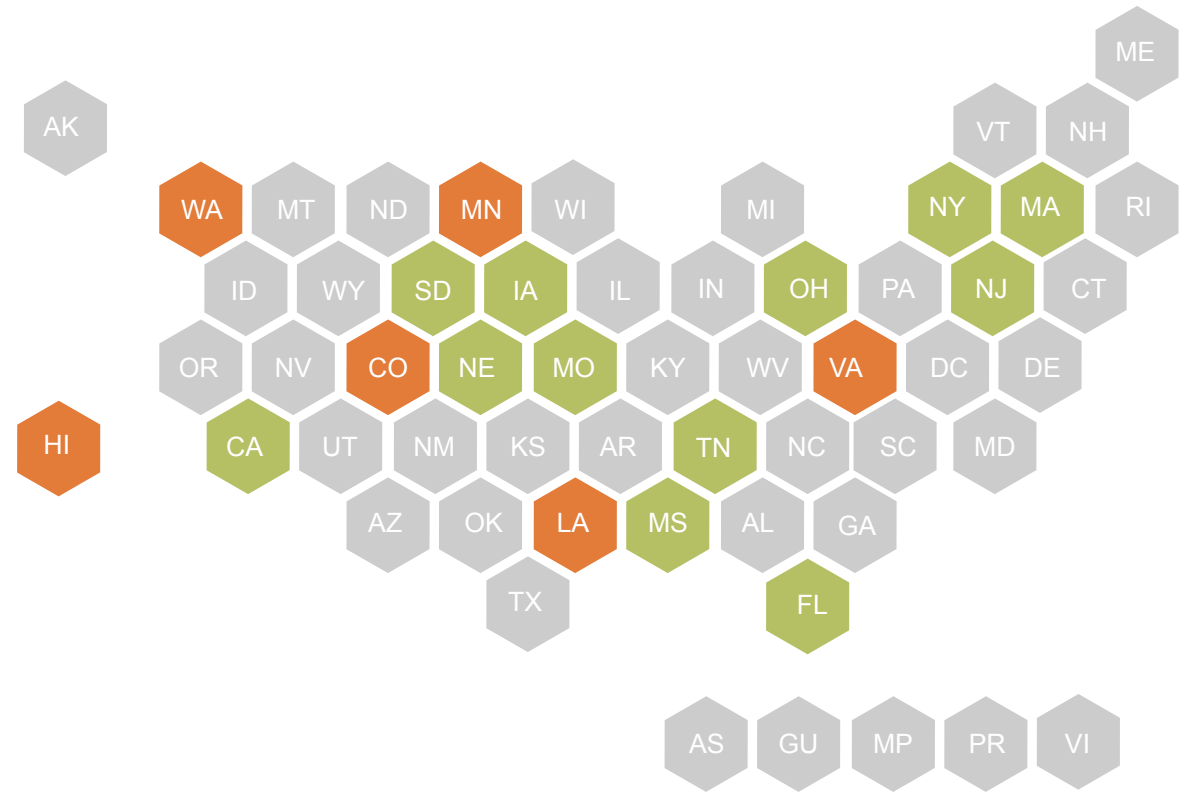


## 2019

- **Seven states** signed new bills into law
  - Delaware
  - Hawaii
  - Maine
  - Nevada
  - New Mexico
  - Oregon
  - Utah
- Early Care & Education 2019 State Legislative Action Report

# Early Childhood Governance in 2020

## Early Care and Education Bill Tracking

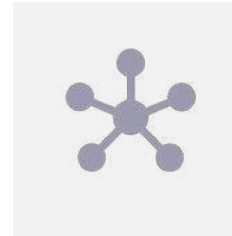




# Early Childhood Governance in 2021

*(as of Feb. 2021)*

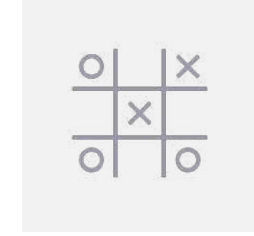
[Early Care and Education Bill Tracking](#)



Mississippi

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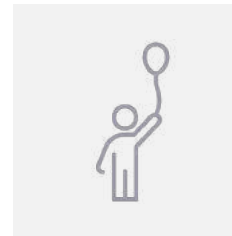
Office of Early  
Childhood  
[SB 2312](#)



Missouri

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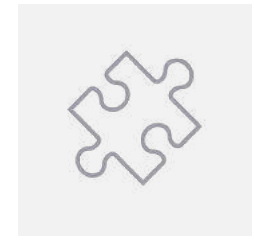
Executive Order  
[21-02](#)



Texas

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Office of Early  
Childhood  
[HB 51](#)



Wyoming

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Early Childhood Education  
[HB 63](#)

## Final Thoughts

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- Bipartisan support for early childhood
- Governance conversations are timely
- Importance of stakeholders during implementation



## External Resources *of Note*

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- [Creating an Integrated Efficient Early Care and Education System to Support Children and Families](#) | Winter 2018
- [Early Childhood Governance: Getting There from Here](#) | Summer 2020
- [50-State Comparison: Early Care and Education Governance](#) | Fall 2020



Feel free to connect

# Questions & Answers

