

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Representative Dave Pinto, Chair of the Children and Families Finance and Policy Committee, called the informational meeting to order at 10:32 A.M. on November 13, 2023, in Room 120 of the State Capitol and via Zoom.

The Committee Legislative Assistant noted the roll.

Members Present:

PINTO, Dave (Chair)
KEELER, Heather (Vice Chair)
DANIELS, Brian (GOP Lead)
COULTER, Nathan
DAVIS, Ben
HANSON, Jessica
HEMMINGSSEN-JAEGER, Amanda
HUDSON, Walter
KOTYZA-WITTHUHN, Carlie
LEE, Liz
NELSON, Nathan
PÉREZ-VEGA, Maria Isa
ZELEZNIKAR, Natalie

Members Excused:

BLISS, Matt
HICKS, Kim

A quorum was present.

Testimony on the Impact of 2023 Investments in Child Care and Early Learning

Testifiers:

- Jessica Gilder, Childcare Solutions Program Office, Initiative Foundation
- Carson Starkey, Parent in Saint Paul
- Tracey Hill, Grandparent in Plymouth and former childcare provider
- Brittany Kjenaas, Parent in Mountain Iron
- Shawntel Gruba, CEO, Iron Range Tykes Learning Center
- Nicole Flick, Director, ABC123 Child Enrichment Center
- Fenessa Robertson, Child Care Center Director in Ramsey
- Mallory Plotz, Parent

Presentation titled “The Cost of Child Care in Minnesota”

Testifying:

- Suzanne Pearl, Minnesota Director of First Children’s Finance
- Nic Demm, Legislative Liaison, Department of Human Services

Representative Kotyza-Witthuhn and Senator Hauschild presented a proposal for High Quality Affordable Child Care and Early Learning.

The Committee adjourned at 12:29 P.M.

Representative Dave Pinto, Chair

Caleb Rohrer, Committee Legislative Assistant

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Representative Dave Pinto, Chair of the Children and Families Finance and Policy Committee, called the meeting to order at 8:33 A.M. on March 30, 2023, in Room 200N of the State Office Building.

The Committee Legislative Assistant noted the roll.

Members Present:

PINTO, Dave (Chair)
KEELER, Heather (Vice Chair)
DANIELS, Brian (GOP Lead)
BLISS, Matt
COULTER, Nathan
DAVIS, Ben
HANSON, Jessica
HEMMINGSSEN-JAEGER, Amanda
HICKS, Kim
HUDSON, Walter
KOTYZA-WITTHUHN, Carlie
LEE, Liz
NELSON, Nathan
PÉREZ-VEGA, Maria Isa
ZELEZNIKAR, Natalie

A quorum was present.

HF 238 (Pinto) Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) general citizenship requirements modified.

Chair Pinto moved that HF 238, as previously presented and amended on March 28, 2023 with public testimony taken on March 29, 2023, be re-referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Nonpartisan House Fiscal staff provided an informational overview and walkthrough of the A1 amendment to HF 238.

Chair Pinto moved the A1 amendment. THE MOTION PREVAILED. THE AMENDMENT WAS ADOPTED.

Representative Daniels moved the A4 amendment.

Representative Daniels requested a roll call.

The clerk noted the roll.

Aye:

DANIELS, Brian (GOP Lead)
BLISS, Matt
DAVIS, Ben
HUDSON, Walter
NELSON, Nathan
ZELEZNIKAR, Natalie

Nays:

PINTO, Dave (Chair)
KEELER, Heather (Vice Chair)
COULTER, Nathan
HANSON, Jessica

HEMMINGSSEN-JAEGER, Amanda
HICKS, Kim
KOTYZA-WITTHUHN, Carlie
LEE, Liz
PÉREZ-VEGA, Maria Isa

There being 6 ayes and 9 nays, THE MOTION DID NOT PREVAIL.

Chair Pinto renewed the motion that HF 238 as amended be re-referred to the Committee on Ways and Means. THE MOTION PREVAILED.

The Committee adjourned at 9:44 A.M.

Representative Dave Pinto, Chair

Caleb Rohrer, Committee Legislative Assistant

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Representative Dave Pinto, Chair of the Children and Families Finance and Policy Committee, called the meeting to order at 8:35 A.M. on March 29, 2023, in Room 200N of the State Office Building.

The Committee Legislative Assistant noted the roll.

Members Present:

PINTO, Dave (Chair)
KEELER, Heather (Vice Chair)
DANIELS, Brian (GOP Lead)
BLISS, Matt
COULTER, Nathan
DAVIS, Ben
HANSON, Jessica
HEMMINGSEN-JAEGER, Amanda
HICKS, Kim
HUDSON, Walter
KOTYZA-WITTHUHN, Carlie
LEE, Liz
NELSON, Nathan
PÉREZ-VEGA, Maria Isa
ZELEZNIKAR, Natalie

Members Excused:

BLISS, Matt
COULTER, Nathan
DAVIS, Ben
HEMMINGSEN-JAEGER, Amanda

HF 238 (Pinto) Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) general citizenship requirements modified.

Chair Pinto brought HF 238, as previously presented and amended on March 28, 2023 before the committee on an informational basis to take public testimony.

Testifying on HF 238 as amended:

- Jodi Harpstead, Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Human Services
- Willie Jett, Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Education
- Andrew Virden, Political Affairs Coordinator, Minnesota Association of Professional Employees
- Amy Walstein, Senior Policy Director, Minnesota Business Partnership
- Paul Verrette, Director of Advancement and Community Engagement, Agate Housing and Services
- Trista MatasCastillo, Commissioner, Ramsey County District 3
- Randi Ilyse Roth, Executive Director, Interfaith Action of Greater St. Paul
- Barb Weckman-Brekke, Commissioner, Scott County District 1

A quorum was present at 8:50 A.M.

- LeeAnn Littlewolf, Executive Director, American Indian Community Housing Organization
- Lorna Schmidt, Director of Public Policy and Advocacy, Catholic Charities Twin Cities
- Laurie York, Executive Director, White Earth
- James Lewis, Director of Housing & Homeless Services, The Link

- Angela Conley, District 4, Hennepin County Commissioner
- Lele Exum, Youth Specialist and Former Client, The Link
- Francis Davis, Teacher, Plymouth Academy
- Peter Woitock, Government Relations Specialist, Hunger Solution Minnesota
- Cisa Keller, Senior Vice President of Early Childhood Programs, Think Small
- Robin Manthie, Managing Director of Kitchen Coalition, Second Harvest Heartland
- Kimberly Johnson, Financial Services Manager, Wright County
- Clare Sandford, Lobbyist, on behalf of the Minnesota Childcare Association
- Becky Foss, Director of Health and Human Services, Pine County
- Debra Fitzpatrick, Policy and Research Director, Children’s Defense Fund
- Suzi Nerison, Human Services, Director, Freeborn County, on behalf of the Minnesota Association of County Social Service Administrators
- Beth Holger, CEO, The Link
- Brenda Carlson, Family School Support Worker and Children’s Mental Health Supervisor, Carlton County Health and Human Services
- Melanie Young, Youth Leader, The Link
- Dr. Jordan Eunison-Chisti, Executive Director, Life House
- Annie Shapiro, Policy Co-Chair, Homes for All Minnesota
- Laura Birnbaum, Housing and Homelessness Programs Supervisor, Saint Louis County Public Health and Human Services
- Rhonda Otteson, Executive Director, Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless
- Jason Urbanczyk, Member, Regional Expert Network, Moorhead
- Katie Williams, Retired Childcare Service Director, Elders for Infants

Vice Chair Keeler moved that the minutes from March 28, 2023 be approved. THE MOTION PREVAILED.

The committee was adjourned at 9:48 A.M.

Representative Dave Pinto, Chair

Caleb Rohrer, Committee Legislative Assistant