

**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 Wednesday, March 19, 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 Coulter moved the minutes of March 18, 2025. THE MOTION PREVAILED.

**HF 2362 (Feist) - Youth intervention programs funding provided, and money appropriated.**

Chair Kotyza-Witthuhn moved that HF 2362 be laid over for possible inclusion in the Children and Families Finance and Policy committee omnibus bill.

Representative Feist presented HF 2362.

Testifiers:

- Paul Meunier (he/him/his), Executive Director, Youth Intervention Programs Association
- Bernadette Foh (she/her/hers), MBA, JD, CPPM - Executive Director, Mediation and Restorative Services
- Miranda Sheffield, Senior Campaign Management, National Center for Youth Law

Chair Kotyza-Witthuhn renewed the motion that HF 2362 be laid over for possible inclusion in the Children and Families Finance and Policy committee omnibus bill. THE BILL IS LAID OVER.

**HF 2136 (Johnson) - Grant funding provided for forensic interview training scholarships, and money appropriated.**

Chair Kotyza-Witthuhn moved that HF 2136 be re-referred to the committee on Public Safety Finance and Policy.

Representative Johnson presented HF 2136.

Testifiers:

- Wade Rasch, Division Commander, St. Louis County Sheriff's Office
- Kari Hohn, Program Manager, Child Protection, Olmsted County

- Marcia Milliken, Executive Director, Minnesota Children's Alliance

Chair Kotyza-Witthuhn renewed the motion that HF 2136 be re-referred to the committee on Public Safety Finance and Policy. THE MOTION PREVAILED.

**HF 1316 (Curran) - Independent contractors and payors added to the centralized work reporting system, and payors required to report independent contractors to the centralized work reporting system.**

Chair Kotyza-Witthuhn moved that HF 1316 be re-referred to the committee on Judiciary Finance and Civil Law.

Rep. Kotyza-Witthuhn moved the A1 amendment. THE MOTION PREVAILED, THE AMENDMENT WAS ADOPTED.

Rep. Curran presented HF 1316 as amended.

Testifiers:

- Trish Skophammer, Ramsey County Child Support Services Director
- Melissa Froehle, Human Services Program Consultant, Department of Children Youth and Families (DCYF)

Chair Kotyza-Witthuhn renewed the motion that HF 1316 as amended be re-referred to the committee on Judiciary Finance and Civil Law. THE MOTION PREVAILED.

**HF1614 (Kraft) - Child in need of protection or services definition modified to clarify when a child is considered to be without the special care made necessary by a physical, mental, or emotional condition.**

Rep. Kotyza-Witthuhn moved that HF1614 be re-referred to the committee on Judiciary Finance and Civil Law.

Rep. Kotyza-Witthuhn moved the DE1 Amendment. THE MOTION PREVAILED, THE AMENDMENT WAS ADOPTED.

Rep. Kraft presented HF1614 as amended.

Testifiers:

- Sue Abderholden, Executive Director, National Alliance on Mental Health (NAMI) Minnesota
- Michelle Wood, Parent
- Lisa Antony-Thomas, Deputy Ombudsman, Minnesota Office of Ombudsman for Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities
- Argie Manolis, Parent
- Angie Thies, Child Wellbeing Policy Analyst, Association of Minnesota Counties

Rep. Kotyza-Witthuhn renewed the motion that HF1614 as amended be re-referred to the committee on Judiciary Finance and Civil Law. THE MOTION PREVAILED.

**HF 2009 (Hanson) - Office of the Foster Youth Ombudsperson funding provided, and money appropriated.**

Rep. Hanson moved that HF 2009 as amended be laid over for possible inclusion in the Children and Families Finance and Policy committee omnibus bill.

Rep. Hanson presented HF 2009.

Testifiers:

- Misty Coonce (she/her/hers), MSW, LISW, Ombudsperson for Foster Youth, Office of the Ombudsperson for Foster Youth

- Vivian Dudley (she/her), Foster & College Ambassador
- Travis Matthews (he/him), Foster

Rep. Hanson renewed the motion that HF 2009 be laid over for possible inclusion in the Children and Families Finance and Policy committee omnibus bill. THE BILL IS LAID OVER.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:53PM.

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Representative Kotyza-Witthuhn, Chair

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Caleb Rohrer, Committee Legislative Assistant