

Investments and Reforms to Give All Children a Strong Start in Life

Make Child Care More Affordable for Minnesota Parents

- Fully fund the Basic Sliding Fee program. (HF867 Moran)
- Increase the Child and Dependent Care Credit. (HF1301 Bernardy)

Support Child Care Providers and Increase Access to Care

- Increase provider rates in the Child Care Assistance Program and include an additional increase for infant care. (HF867, HF2821 Moran & HF3286 Flanagan)
- Support regional solutions to child care provider shortages in Greater Minnesota by providing grant funding to each of the six Minnesota Initiative Foundations. (HF3250 Persell)
- Ensure prompt payment to CCAP providers by requiring payments be made within 3 days of receiving a bill instead of 30. (HF2657 Mullery)
- Require DHS to review and issue recommendations on ways to streamline child care licensing and regulations.
- Require training of county licensors to ensure inspections and investigations are uniform and consistent.

Increase Infant and Child Wellbeing

- Fund the at-home infant care program so new parents who meet income guidelines can afford to stay home with their babies, promoting parent-child bonding. (HF3104 Flanagan)
- Create new Home Visitors initiative that provides new parents and Family, Friend, and Neighbor caregivers the support they need to form nurturing relationships and promote healthy child development. (HFXXXX, Mullery)
- Require MDH to study disparities in access to prenatal care for women of color. (HF3177 Pinto)
- Provide at-risk moms and their newborns with safe-sleep baby boxes and baby care supplies. (HF3236 Pinto)
- Fully fund Early Head Start so at-risk children receive targeted care and services to promote healthy brain and social/emotional development. (HF2811 Persell)