

STATE OF MINNESOTA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVE THIRTY-FIRST MEETING
NINETY-FOURTH SESSION

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 8:31 A.M. on March 7th, 2024, in Room 200N of the State Office Building.

Members Present:

PINTO, Dave (Chair)
DANIELS, Brian (GOP Lead)
BURKEL, John
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:

KEELER, Heather (Vice Chair)

A quorum was present.

Representative Burkel moved that the minutes from March 5th, 2024 be approved. THE MOTION PREVAILED.

Presentation titled, "Vision on Child Welfare Technology".

Presenting:

- Alex Menten, SSIS Manager, Minnesota Department of Human Services
- Patricia Harrelson, Minnesota Prairie County Alliance, Co-Chair Minnesota Association of County Social Service Administrators (MACSSA), Children's Committee
- Laurie York, Executive Director, White Earth Nation
- Jennifer Sommerfield, Director of Legislative and External Affairs, Children and Family Services, Department of Human Services

Representative Kotyza-Witthuhn assumed the gavel.

HF3671 (Pinto) Definition of child in need of protection or services modified.

Chair Pinto moved to re-refer HF3671 to the Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee.

Chair Pinto moved the DE2 Amendment, THE MOTION PREVAILED, THE AMENDMENT WAS ADOPTED.

Testifying:

- Caelyn Steele, Campaign Lead, Legal Rights Center
- Sarah Davis, Director, Children & Families Division, Hennepin County Attorney's Office

Chair Pinto renewed his motion to re-refer HF3671 as amended to the Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee, THE MOTION PREVAILED, THE BILL WAS RE-REFERED

Chair Pinto assumed the gavel.

HF4406 (Clardy) READ Act expanded to include early childhood education, professional development provided, curriculum revised, and money appropriated.

Representative Kotyza-Witthuhn moved HF4406 before the committee.

Representative Kotyza-Witthuhn moved the A24 Amendment, THE MOTION PREVAILED, THE AMENDMENT WAS ADOPTED

Representative Clardy presented HF4406 as amended.

Testifying:

- Ericca Maas, Policy and Advocacy Director, Think Small
- Julia Quanrud, CEO, ServeMinnesota
- Bobbie Burnham, Assistant Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Education

Chair Pinto laid over HF4406.

HF4425 (Hemmingsen-Jaeger) Home daycare restrictions prohibited.

Representative Hemmingsen-Jaeger moved HF4425 before the committee.

Testifying:

- Thomas Leonzal, Family Child Care Provider, Woodbury, MN

Chair Pinto laid over HF4425.

HF3856 (Hanson, J.) Notice requirements for foster children receiving benefits modified.

Representative Hanson moved HF3856 before the committee.

Representative Hanson presented HF3856.

Testifying:

- Nikki Beasley, Executive Director, Foster Advocates
- Bharti Wahi, Deputy Commissioner of Children and Families, Department of Human Resources

Chair Pinto laid over HF3856.

The Committee adjourned at 9:59 A.M.

Representative Dave Pinto, Chair

Caleb Rohrer, Committee Legislative Assistant