





HB 2053: Baby Promise and Preschool Promise Statute Alignment for Sector Plans

Background:

HB 2053 is a technical fix to statutory changes made in the 2019 session (HB 2024 & HB 2025) for the Preschool Promise and Baby Promise programs administered by the Early Learning Division. These two programs provide state funded early care and education services to families at 200% of the federal poverty level.

During the 2019 session, the legislature added requirements to statute that the 16 Early Learning Hubs complete biennial community plans that assist the Early Learning Division in determining how it allocates early care and education resources across the state. The plan requirements found in the Preschool Promise and Baby Promise statutes were supposed to drafted in the same way, but the plan found in the Preschool Promise statutes did not reflect the correct version of the community plan requirements.

Furthermore, HB 2024 and HB 2025 created an opportunity for child care providers to use a fiscal agent to assist them with the grant process for these two programs. This opportunity has gone unused.

Statutory Change:

HB 2053 aligns those two program statutes so that the language mirrors each other for Preschool Promise and Baby Promise.

In addition, the bill removes references to the use of a fiscal agent. This opportunity was initially placed in statute to assist child care providers with the fiscal aspects of the grant process. However, the fiscal agent opportunity was unsuccessful and is no longer needed in statute as it has gone unutilized.