



2021 Legislative Tracker (As Of 3/15/2021)

Funding Requests:

- \$8.6 million in optional extended day kindergarten--\$7 million allocated
- \$5 million early learning training and assessment—\$5 million allocated
- \$500K pre-school demonstration project for United Way—\$500K allocated
- \$ 3 million for School Readiness Grants/High-Quality Preschool--\$3 million allocated

HB 13—School and Child Care Center Water Testing

- Requires schools and child-care centers to test at least 20% of consumable tap at the center (or school) for lead no later than December 31, 2024 and at least 20% of the consumable taps each subsequent calendar year until all taps are tested.
- Must comply with EPA guidelines for reducing lead in drinking water.
- If test shows high levels of lead, must take steps to stop the use of that water or reduce the lead below the action level.
- A similar bill did not pass last year as HB88.
- Status: Did not pass the House
- <https://le.utah.gov/~2021/bills/static/HB0013.html>

HB 125—Intergenerational Poverty Solution

- Creates an Earned Income and Education Savings Program which provides a process for an individual identified by DWS as experiencing intergenerational poverty to receive a state match of deposits into certain 529 savings accounts. One to one match up to \$300 per families who qualify for the Federal Earned Income Tax Credit.
- Similar bill did not pass last year as HB 52.
- Did not pass the House.
- <https://le.utah.gov/~2021/bills/static/HB0125.html>

HB 113 Shared Medical Costs

- This bill amends the Utah Child Support Act to require an unmarried father to pay 50% of a mother's insurance premiums while she is pregnant; and pregnancy-related medical costs, including the hospital birth of the child, that are not paid by her insurance provider.
- Status: Sent to Governor March 15, 2021
- <https://le.utah.gov/~2021/bills/static/HB0113.html>

HB 118 Children's Hearing Aid Program Amendments

- This bill modifies the Children's Hearing Aid Program to require the department to establish a sliding scale based on the income of the child's family to determine the amount of assistance a child can receive under the program; and require some of the assistance the department gives to be in the form of a loan.

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- Status: Sent to the Governor March 11, 2021
- <https://le.utah.gov/~2021/bills/static/HB0118.html>

HB 262 Children's Health Insurance Amendments

- This bill creates the Children's Healthcare Coverage Program and provides annual funding of \$172,500. This program would develop a process to promote health insurance coverage for a child in school when: (a) the child applies for free or reduced price school lunch; (b) a child enrolls in or registers in school; and (c) other appropriate school related opportunities.
- Status: Draft of Enrolled Bill prepared March 5, 2021
- <https://le.utah.gov/~2021/bills/static/HB0262.html>

HB 277 Child Care Eligibility Amendments

- This bill defines "income" and "income-eligible child" to go up to 85% of state median income until July 1, 2023, then reduces to 75% AMI with a sliding scale for families earning between 75 and 85% of AMI; and provides that subsidy is based on enrollment up to July 2023, then returns to attendance.
- Status: Draft of Enrolled Bill prepared March 9, 2021
- <https://le.utah.gov/~2021/bills/static/HB0277.html>

HB 271 Home Child Care Amendments

- This bill increases the number of children that a child care provider can care for without obtaining a residential child care certificate from five to seven.
- Status: Did not pass the House.
- <https://le.utah.gov/~2021/bills/static/HB0271.html>

HB 363 Medicaid Waiver for New Mothers

- This bill directs the Department of Health to apply for a waiver from the federal government to provide Medicaid coverage to a postpartum individual whose household income is at or below 200% of the federal poverty level for a period of one year after the individual's pregnancy ends.
- Status: Did not pass the House.
- <https://le.utah.gov/~2021/bills/static/HB0363.html>

SB 132 Child Care Center Sales Tax Exemption

- This bill exempts sales tax on construction materials used to open or expand licensed child care centers.
- Status: Did not pass.
- <https://le.utah.gov/~2021/bills/static/SB0132.html>

SB 158 Children's Health Coverage Amendments

- This bill removes barriers to coverage by creating the Children's Coverage Outreach Pilot Program which would include a grant program to deliver targeted outreach and application

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assistance, a media outreach campaign to raise awareness of options for health insurance coverage available to Utah children, and directs the Department of Health to expand eligibility for Medicaid and CHIP to include children who do not currently qualify.

- Status: Did not pass.
- <https://le.utah.gov/~2021/bills/static/SB0158.html>