

## **AGENDA PRIORITY AREA 1**

<u>Support and uplift Child Care and Early Learning Providers in childcare deserts.</u>

<u>HB 2101 Child Care Licensing Fees</u> - Would prohibit DCYF from charging child care licensing fees. Proponents spoke about the financial challenges faced by child care providers and how licensing fees could be reinvested into serving the needs of their students.

<u>HB 2243 Children's Social Equity Land Trust</u> - Would create the Children's Social Equity Land Trust, wherein funding for child care deserts would be generated by revenue from working forests statewide.

<u>SB 5870 Early Learning Program Eligibility</u> - Would streamline early learning program eligibility for early learning programs, including WCCC, ECEAP, and Early ECEAP. Streamlining eligibility criteria ensures that more families, including those with diverse needs and backgrounds, have access to quality early learning programs.

## **AGENDA PRIORITY AREA 2**

Strengthen the child care workforce by increasing compensation, support, and quality of life.

HB 2195 Early Learning Facilities Grant - Would strengthen the Ruth LeCocq Kagi grant and loan program by revising criteria and providing resources to the Early Learning Facilities Development Account (ELF).

<u>SB 5774 Fingerprinting</u> - Would require DCYF to offer fingerprinting services in their early learning and child welfare offices, thereby increasing the capacity for conducting fingerprint-based background checks for prospective employees in child care and other programs.



## **AGENDA PRIORITY AREA 3**

Increase coordination between health and early childhood systems to equitably serve families in underserved communities.

HB 1941 Medicaid Home Health Services - Would implement health home services for Medicaid-eligible children with medically complex conditions. Children with medical complexity deserve coordinated and effective care delivered in a high-quality setting. Families should be able to focus solely on their child's needs and not waste precious time fighting a fragmented care system or the complexities of Medicaid.

<u>SB 5943 Resource Directory</u> - This bill aims to help develop a resource data tool to connect Washington residents to services and resources/coordinated access. A centralized resource directory, when effectively implemented, plays a pivotal role in creating a connected, informed, and supportive community ecosystem that addresses the diverse needs of its residents.

<u>HB 1916 ESIT Reimbursement</u> - Changes the monthly count date for the Early Support for Infants and Toddlers (ESIT) Program, allowing programs to be reimbursed for the first month of services.

 Includes companion <u>SB 5933</u> - Access to high-quality early intervention programs helps bridge health disparities by ensuring that all children, regardless of socioeconomic background, have equal opportunities for optimal development.

