

EARLY CHILDHOOD COORDINATION AMENDMENTS

2019 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: V. Lowry Snow

Senate Sponsor: Ann Millner

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill creates the Early Childhood Utah Advisory Council and the Governor's Early Childhood Commission.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ creates the Early Childhood Utah Advisory Council (council) in the Department of Health;
- ▶ creates the Governor's Early Childhood Commission (commission) in the governor's office; and
- ▶ describes the duties of the council and the membership and duties of the commission.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

ENACTS:

26-66-101, Utah Code Annotated 1953

26-66-102, Utah Code Annotated 1953

26-66-201, Utah Code Annotated 1953

26-66-202, Utah Code Annotated 1953

- 29 [26-66-203](#), Utah Code Annotated 1953
- 30 [63M-13-101](#), Utah Code Annotated 1953
- 31 [63M-13-102](#), Utah Code Annotated 1953
- 32 [63M-13-201](#), Utah Code Annotated 1953
- 33 [63M-13-202](#), Utah Code Annotated 1953
- 34 [63M-13-203](#), Utah Code Annotated 1953

36 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

37 Section 1. Section **26-66-101** is enacted to read:

38 **CHAPTER 66. EARLY CHILDHOOD UTAH ADVISORY COUNCIL**

39 **Part 1. General Provisions**

40 **26-66-101. Title.**

41 This chapter is known as the "Early Childhood Utah Advisory Council."

42 Section 2. Section **26-66-102** is enacted to read:

43 **26-66-102. Definitions.**

44 As used in this chapter:

45 (1) "Commission" means the Governor's Early Childhood Commission created in

46 Section [63M-13-201](#).

47 (2) "Council" means the Early Childhood Utah Advisory Council created in Section

48 [26-66-201](#).

49 Section 3. Section **26-66-201** is enacted to read:

50 **Part 2. Early Childhood Utah Advisory Council**

51 **26-66-201. Early Childhood Utah Advisory Council.**

52 (1) There is created the Early Childhood Utah Advisory Council.

53 (2) The department shall make rules establishing the membership, duties, and
54 procedures of the council in accordance with the requirements of:

55 (a) this chapter;

56 (b) the Improving Head Start for School Readiness Act of 2007, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 9837b;
57 and

58 (c) Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act.

59 Section 4. Section **26-66-202** is enacted to read:

60 **26-66-202. Early Childhood Utah Advisory Council -- Duties.**

61 (1) The council shall serve as an entity dedicated to improving and coordinating the
62 quality of programs and services for children in accordance with the Improving Head Start for
63 School Readiness Act of 2007, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 9837b.

64 (2) The council shall advise the commission and, on or before August 1, annually
65 provide to the commission:

66 (a) a statewide assessment concerning the availability of high-quality pre-kindergarten
67 services for children from low-income households; and

68 (b) a statewide strategic report addressing the activities mandated by the Improving
69 Head Start for School Readiness Act of 2007, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 9837b, including:

70 (i) identifying opportunities for and barriers to collaboration and coordination among
71 federally-funded and state-funded child health and development, child care, and early
72 childhood education programs and services, including collaboration and coordination among
73 state agencies responsible for administering such programs;

74 (ii) evaluating the overall participation of children in existing federal, state, and local
75 child care programs and early childhood health, development, family support, and education
76 programs;

77 (iii) recommending statewide professional development and career advancement plans
78 for early childhood educators and service providers in the state, including an analysis of the
79 capacity and effectiveness of programs at two- and four-year public and private institutions of
80 higher education that support the development of early childhood educators; and

81 (iv) recommending improvements to the state's early learning standards and
82 high-quality comprehensive early learning standards.

83 (3) On or before August 1, 2020, and at least every five years thereafter, the council
84 shall provide to the commission a statewide needs assessment concerning the quality and
85 availability of early childhood education, health, and development programs and services for
86 children in early childhood.

87 Section 5. Section **26-66-203** is enacted to read:

88 **26-66-203. Compensation.**

89 A member of the council may not receive compensation or benefits for the member's
90 service.

91 Section 6. Section **63M-13-101** is enacted to read:

92 **CHAPTER 13. GOVERNOR'S EARLY CHILDHOOD COMMISSION**

93 **Part 1. General Provisions**

94 **63M-13-101. Title.**

95 This chapter is known as the "Governor's Early Childhood Commission."

96 Section 7. Section **63M-13-102** is enacted to read:

97 **63M-13-102. Definitions.**

98 As used in this chapter:

99 (1) "Commission" means the Governor's Early Childhood Commission created in
100 Section [63M-13-201](#).

101 (2) "Early childhood" refers to a child in the state who is six years of age or younger.

102 Section 8. Section **63M-13-201** is enacted to read:

103 **Part 2. Governor's Early Childhood Commission**

104 **63M-13-201. Creation of the Governor's Early Childhood Commission.**

105 (1) There is created within the governor's office the Governor's Early Childhood
106 Commission consisting of the following five members:

107 (a) the lieutenant governor, who shall serve as chair of the commission;

108 (b) the executive director of the Department of Workforce Services or the deputy
109 director if designated by the executive director;

- 110 (c) the executive director of the Department of Health or the deputy director if
- 111 designated by the executive director;
- 112 (d) the executive director of the Department of Human Services or the deputy director
- 113 if designated by the executive director; and
- 114 (e) the state superintendent of public instruction or a deputy superintendent if
- 115 designated by the superintendent.
- 116 (2) The chair of the commission, with the approval of the commission, shall appoint a
- 117 vice chair of the commission.
- 118 (3) The commission chair:
- 119 (a) is responsible for the call and conduct of meetings;
- 120 (b) shall call and hold meetings of the commission at least quarterly;
- 121 (c) shall call additional meetings upon request by a majority of the commission's
- 122 members; and
- 123 (d) may delegate duties to the vice chair.
- 124 (4) A majority of the members of the commission constitutes a quorum of the
- 125 commission at any meeting and the action of the majority of members present is the action of
- 126 the commission.
- 127 (5) A member of the commission may not receive compensation or benefits for the
- 128 member's service, but may receive per diem and travel expenses in accordance with:
- 129 (a) Section [63A-3-106](#);
- 130 (b) Section [63A-3-107](#); and
- 131 (c) rules made by the Division of Finance in accordance with Sections [63A-3-106](#) and
- 132 [63A-3-107](#).
- 133 (6) The Department of Workforce Services shall provide administrative staff support to
- 134 the commission.

135 Section 9. Section **63M-13-202** is enacted to read:

136 **63M-13-202. Duties of the commission.**

- 137 (1) The responsibilities of the commission include:
- 138 (a) supporting Utah parents and families, who have family members that are in early
- 139 childhood, by providing comprehensive and accurate information regarding the availability of
- 140 voluntary services that are available to children in early childhood from state agencies and
- 141 other private and public entities;
- 142 (b) facilitating improved coordination between state agencies and community partners
- 143 that provide services to children in early childhood;
- 144 (c) sharing and analyzing information regarding early childhood issues in the state;
- 145 (d) developing and coordinating a comprehensive delivery system of services for
- 146 children in early childhood that addresses the following four areas:
- 147 (i) family support and safety;
- 148 (ii) health and development;
- 149 (iii) early learning; and
- 150 (iv) economic development; and
- 151 (e) identifying opportunities for and barriers to the alignment of standards, rules,
- 152 policies, and procedures across programs and agencies that support children in early childhood.
- 153 (2) To fulfill the responsibilities described in Subsection (1), the commission shall:
- 154 (a) directly engage with parents, families, community members, and public and private
- 155 service providers to identify and address:
- 156 (i) the quality, effectiveness, and availability of existing services for children in early
- 157 childhood and the coordination of those services;
- 158 (ii) gaps and barriers to entry in the provision of services for children in early
- 159 childhood; and
- 160 (iii) community-based solutions in improving the quality, effectiveness, and
- 161 availability of services for children in early childhood;
- 162 (b) seek regular and ongoing feedback from a wide range of entities and individuals
- 163 that use or provide services for children in early childhood, including entities and individuals

- 164 that use, represent, or provide services for any of the following:
- 165 (i) children in early childhood who live in urban, suburban, or rural areas of the state;
- 166 (ii) children in early childhood with varying socioeconomic backgrounds;
- 167 (iii) children in early childhood with varying ethnic or racial heritage;
- 168 (iv) children in early childhood from various geographic areas of the state; and
- 169 (v) children in early childhood with special needs;
- 170 (c) study, evaluate, and report on the status and effectiveness of policies, procedures,
- 171 and programs that provide services to children in early childhood;
- 172 (d) study and evaluate the effectiveness of policies, procedures, and programs
- 173 implemented by other states and nongovernmental entities that address the needs of children in
- 174 early childhood;
- 175 (e) identify policies, procedures, and programs that are impeding efforts to help
- 176 children in early childhood in the state and recommend and implement changes to those
- 177 policies, procedures, and programs;
- 178 (f) identify policies, procedures, and programs related to children in early childhood in
- 179 the state that are inefficient or duplicative and recommend and implement changes to those
- 180 policies, procedures, and programs;
- 181 (g) recommend policy, procedure, and program changes to address the needs of
- 182 children in early childhood;
- 183 (h) develop methods for using interagency information to inform comprehensive policy
- 184 and budget decisions relating to early childhood services;
- 185 (i) develop, recommend, and coordinate a comprehensive delivery system of services
- 186 for children in early childhood; and
- 187 (j) develop strategies and monitor efforts concerning:
- 188 (i) increasing school readiness;
- 189 (ii) improving access to child care and early education programs; and
- 190 (iii) improving family and community engagement in early childhood education and

191 development.

192 (3) In fulfilling the duties of the commission, the commission shall collaborate with the
193 Early Childhood Utah Advisory Council created in Section [22-66-201](#).

194 (4) In fulfilling the commission's duties, the commission may:

195 (a) request and receive, from any state or local governmental agency or institution,
196 information relating to early childhood, including reports, audits, projections, and statistics;
197 and

198 (b) appoint special advisory groups to advise and assist the commission.

199 (5) Members of a special advisory group described in Subsection (4)(b):

200 (a) shall be appointed by the commission;

201 (b) may include:

202 (i) members of the commission; and

203 (ii) individuals from the private or public sector; and

204 (c) may not receive reimbursement or pay for work done in relation to the special
205 advisory group.

206 (6) A special advisory group created in accordance with Subsection (4)(b) shall report
207 to the commission on the progress of the special advisory group.

208 Section 10. Section **63M-13-203** is enacted to read:

209 **63M-13-203. Annual report.**

210 (1) On or before October 1 of each year, the commission shall provide a report to the
211 governor and the Economic Development and Workforce Services Interim Committee.

212 (2) The annual report shall:

213 (a) describe how the commission fulfilled its statutory duties during the year;

214 (b) describe the commission's progress in developing and coordinating a
215 comprehensive delivery system of services for children in early childhood; and

216 (c) include recommendations on how the state should act to address issues related to
217 providing services for children in early childhood.

