

**EARLY CHILDHOOD COORDINATION AMENDMENTS**

2019 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: V. Lowry Snow**

Senate Sponsor: Ann Millner

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**LONG TITLE**

**Committee Note:**

The Economic Development and Workforce Services Interim Committee recommended this bill.

**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:



- 28 [26-66-101](#), Utah Code Annotated 1953
- 29 [26-66-102](#), Utah Code Annotated 1953
- 30 [26-66-201](#), Utah Code Annotated 1953
- 31 [26-66-202](#), Utah Code Annotated 1953
- 32 [26-66-203](#), Utah Code Annotated 1953
- 33 [63M-13-101](#), Utah Code Annotated 1953
- 34 [63M-13-102](#), Utah Code Annotated 1953
- 35 [63M-13-201](#), Utah Code Annotated 1953
- 36 [63M-13-202](#), Utah Code Annotated 1953
- 37 [63M-13-203](#), Utah Code Annotated 1953
- 38 [63M-13-204](#), Utah Code Annotated 1953

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

41 Section 1. Section [26-66-101](#) is enacted to read:

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

43 **Part 1. General Provisions**

44 **26-66-101. Title.**

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

46 Section 2. Section [26-66-102](#) is enacted to read:

47 **26-66-102. Definitions.**

48 As used in this chapter:

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

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

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

52 [26-66-201](#).

53 Section 3. Section [26-66-201](#) is enacted to read:

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

55 **26-66-201. Early Childhood Utah Advisory Council.**

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

57 (2) The department shall make rules establishing the membership, duties, and

58 procedures of the council in accordance with the requirements of:

59 (a) this chapter;

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

61 and

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

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

64 **26-66-202. Early Childhood Utah Advisory Council -- Duties.**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

87 (3) On or before August 1, 2020, and at least every five years thereafter, the council  
88 shall provide to the commission a statewide needs assessment concerning the quality and  
89 availability of early childhood education, health, and development programs and services for

90 children in early childhood.

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

92 **26-66-203. Compensation.**

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

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

96 **CHAPTER 13. GOVERNOR’S EARLY CHILDHOOD COMMISSION**

97 **Part 1. General Provisions**

98 **63M-13-101. Title.**

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

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

101 **63M-13-102. Definitions.**

102 As used in this chapter:

103 (1) "Commission" means the Governor's Early Childhood Commission created in  
104 Section [63M-12-103](#).

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

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

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

108 **63M-13-201. Creation of the Governor's Early Childhood Commission.**

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

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

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

114 (c) the executive director of the Department of Health or the deputy director if  
115 designated by the executive director;

116 (d) the executive director of the Department of Human Services or the deputy director  
117 if designated by the executive director; and

118 (e) the state superintendent of public instruction or a deputy superintendent if  
119 designated by the superintendent.

120 (2) The chair of the commission, with the approval of the commission, shall appoint a

121 vice chair of the commission.

122 (3) The commission chair:

123 (a) is responsible for the call and conduct of meetings;

124 (b) shall call and hold meetings of the commission at least quarterly;

125 (c) shall call additional meetings upon request by a majority of the commission's  
126 members; and

127 (d) may delegate duties to the vice chair.

128 (4) A majority of the members of the commission constitutes a quorum of the  
129 commission at any meeting and the action of the majority of members present is the action of  
130 the commission.

131 (5) A member of the commission may not receive compensation or benefits for the  
132 member's service, but may receive per diem and travel expenses in accordance with:

133 (a) Section [63A-3-106](#);

134 (b) Section [63A-3-107](#); and

135 (c) rules made by the Division of Finance in accordance with Sections [63A-3-106](#) and  
136 [63A-3-107](#).

137 (6) The Department of Workforce Services shall provide staff support to the  
138 commission.

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

140 **63M-13-202. Executive director.**

141 The governor shall appoint a full-time or part-time executive director of the  
142 commission.

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

144 **63M-13-203. Duties of the commission.**

145 (1) The responsibilities of the commission include:

146 (a) supporting Utah parents and families, who have family members that are in early  
147 childhood, by providing comprehensive and accurate information regarding the availability of  
148 services that are available to children in early childhood from state agencies and other private  
149 and public entities;

150 (b) facilitating improved coordination between state agencies and community partners  
151 that provide services to children in early childhood;

152 (c) sharing and analyzing information regarding early childhood issues in the state;

153 (d) developing and coordinating a comprehensive delivery system of services for

154 children in early childhood that addresses the following four areas:

155 (i) family support and safety;

156 (ii) health and development;

157 (iii) early learning; and

158 (iv) economic development; and

159 (e) identifying opportunities for and barriers to the alignment of standards, rules,

160 policies, and procedures across programs and agencies that support children in early childhood.

161 (2) To fulfill the responsibilities described in Subsection (1), the commission shall:

162 (a) directly engage with parents, families, community members, and public and private

163 service providers to identify and address:

164 (i) the quality, effectiveness, and availability of existing services for children in early

165 childhood and the coordination of those services;

166 (ii) gaps and barriers to entry in the provision of services for children in early

167 childhood; and

168 (iii) community-based solutions in improving the quality, effectiveness, and

169 availability of services for children in early childhood;

170 (b) seek regular and ongoing feedback from a wide range of entities and individuals

171 that use or provide services for children in early childhood, including entities and individuals

172 that use, represent, or provide services for any of the following:

173 (i) children in early childhood who live in urban, suburban, or rural areas of the state;

174 (ii) children in early childhood with varying socioeconomic backgrounds;

175 (iii) children in early childhood with varying ethnic or racial heritage;

176 (iv) children in early childhood from various geographic areas of the state; and

177 (v) children in early childhood with special needs;

178 (c) study, evaluate, and report on the status and effectiveness of policies, procedures,

179 and programs that provide services to children in early childhood;

180 (d) study and evaluate the effectiveness of policies, procedures, and programs

181 implemented by other states and nongovernmental entities that address the needs of children in

182 early childhood;

183 (e) identify policies, procedures, and programs that are impeding efforts to help  
184 children in early childhood in the state and recommend and implement changes to those  
185 policies, procedures, and programs;

186 (f) identify policies, procedures, and programs related to children in early childhood in  
187 the state that are inefficient or duplicative and recommend and implement changes to those  
188 policies, procedures, and programs;

189 (g) recommend policy, procedure, and program changes to address the needs of  
190 children in early childhood;

191 (h) develop methods for using interagency information to inform comprehensive policy  
192 and budget decisions relating to early childhood services;

193 (i) develop, recommend, and coordinate a comprehensive delivery system of services  
194 for children in early childhood; and

195 (j) develop strategies and monitor efforts concerning:

196 (i) increasing school readiness;

197 (ii) improving access to child care and early education programs; and

198 (iii) improving family and community engagement in early childhood education and  
199 development.

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

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

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

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

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

208 (a) shall be appointed by the commission;

209 (b) may include:

210 (i) members of the commission; and

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

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

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

216 Section 11. Section **63M-13-204** is enacted to read:

217 **63M-13-204. Annual report.**

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

220 (2) The annual report shall:

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

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

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