

1                                   **EARLY CHILDHOOD AMENDMENTS**

2   2023 GENERAL SESSION

3   STATE OF UTAH

4                                   **Chief Sponsor: Susan Pulsipher**

5   Senate Sponsor: Ann Millner

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7 **LONG TITLE**

8 **General Description:**

9           This bill addresses state programs and services for children in early childhood.

10 **Highlighted Provisions:**

11           This bill:

- 12           ▶ defines terms;
- 13           ▶ repeals the Governor's Early Childhood Commission (the commission);
- 14           ▶ requires the Department of Health and Human Services to provide administrative
- 15 and staff support to the Early Childhood Utah Advisory Council (the council);
- 16           ▶ expands the duties of the council to include duties previously fulfilled by the
- 17 commission;
- 18           ▶ requires the council to report certain information to the executive officers of the
- 19 Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Workforce Services,
- 20 and the State Board of Education;
- 21           ▶ extends the sunset date of the council from 2026 to 2029; and
- 22           ▶ makes technical changes.

23 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

24           None

25 **Other Special Clauses:**

26           None

27 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

28 AMENDS:

29           **26-66-102**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2019, Chapter 34

30 **26-66-201**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2019, Chapter 34

31 **26-66-202**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2019, Chapter 34

32 **63I-1-226**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapters 194, 206, 224, 253, 255,  
33 347, and 451

34 ENACTS:

35 **26-66-204**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

36 REPEALS:

37 **63M-13-101**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2019, Chapter 34

38 **63M-13-102**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2019, Chapter 34

39 **63M-13-201**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2019, Chapter 34

40 **63M-13-202**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2020, Chapter 354

41 **63M-13-203**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2019, Chapter 34



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

44 Section 1. Section **26-66-102** is amended to read:

45 **26-66-102. Definitions.**

46 As used in this chapter:

47 [~~(1)~~] "~~Commission~~" means the ~~Governor's Early Childhood Commission~~ created in  
48 ~~Section 63M-13-201.~~]

49 [~~(2)~~] (1) "Council" means the Early Childhood Utah Advisory Council created in  
50 Section **26-66-201**.

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

52 (3) "State superintendent" means the state superintendent of public instruction  
53 appointed under Section **53E-3-301**.

54 Section 2. Section **26-66-201** is amended to read:

55 **26-66-201. Creation of the Early Childhood Utah Advisory Council -- Duties of**  
56 **the department.**

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

58 (2) The department shall:  
 59 (a) make rules establishing the membership, duties, and procedures of the council in  
 60 accordance with the requirements of:  
 61 ~~[(a)]~~ (i) this chapter;  
 62 ~~[(b)]~~ (ii) the Improving Head Start for School Readiness Act of 2007, 42 U.S.C. Sec.  
 63 9837b; and  
 64 ~~[(c)]~~ (iii) Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act[-]; and  
 65 (b) provide necessary administrative and staff support to the council.

66 Section 3. Section **26-66-202** is amended to read:

67 **26-66-202. Duties of the council.**

68 (1) The duties of the council [~~shall serve as an entity dedicated to~~] include:  
 69 (a) improving and coordinating the quality of programs and services for children in  
 70 accordance with the Improving Head Start for School Readiness Act of 2007, 42 U.S.C. Sec.  
 71 9837b[-];

72 (b) supporting Utah parents and families by providing comprehensive and accurate  
 73 information regarding the availability of voluntary services for children in early childhood from  
 74 state agencies and other private and public entities;

75 (c) facilitating improved coordination between state agencies and community partners  
 76 that provide services to children in early childhood;

77 (d) sharing and analyzing information regarding early childhood issues in the state;

78 (e) providing recommendations to the department, the Department of Workforce  
 79 Services, and the State Board of Education regarding a comprehensive delivery system of  
 80 services for children in early childhood that addresses the following four areas:

81 (i) family support and safety;

82 (ii) health and development;

83 (iii) early learning; and

84 (iv) economic development; and

85 (f) identifying opportunities for and barriers to the alignment of standards, rules,

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

87 (2) To fulfill the duties described in Subsection (1), the council shall:

88 (a) directly engage with parents, families, community members, and public and private  
89 service providers to identify and address:

90 (i) the quality, effectiveness, and availability of existing services for children in early  
91 childhood and the coordination of those services;

92 (ii) gaps and barriers to entry in the provision of services for children in early  
93 childhood; and

94 (iii) community-based solutions in improving the quality, effectiveness, and  
95 availability of services for children in early childhood;

96 (b) seek regular and ongoing feedback from a wide range of entities and individuals  
97 that use or provide services for children in early childhood, including entities and individuals  
98 that use, represent, or provide services for any of the following:

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

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

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

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

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

104 (c) study, evaluate, and report on the status and effectiveness of policies, procedures,  
105 and programs that provide services to children in early childhood;

106 (d) study and evaluate the effectiveness of policies, procedures, and programs  
107 implemented by other states and nongovernmental entities that address the needs of children in  
108 early childhood;

109 (e) identify policies, procedures, and programs that are impeding efforts to help  
110 children in early childhood in the state and recommend changes to those policies, procedures,  
111 and programs;

112 (f) identify policies, procedures, and programs related to children in early childhood in  
113 the state that are inefficient or duplicative and recommend changes to those policies,

114 procedures, and programs;

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

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

119 (i) develop strategies and monitor efforts concerning:

120 (i) increasing school readiness;

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

122 (iii) improving family and community engagement in early childhood education and  
123 development.

124 (3) In fulfilling the council's duties, the council may request and receive, from any state  
125 or local governmental agency or institution, information relating to early childhood, including  
126 reports, audits, projections, and statistics.

127 ~~[(2) The council shall advise the commission and, on or before August 1, annually~~  
128 ~~provide to the commission:]~~

129 ~~[(a) a statewide assessment concerning the availability of high-quality pre-kindergarten~~  
130 ~~services for children from low-income households; and]~~

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

133 ~~[(i) identifying opportunities for and barriers to collaboration and coordination among~~  
134 ~~federally-funded and state-funded child health and development, child care, and early~~  
135 ~~childhood education programs and services, including collaboration and coordination among~~  
136 ~~state agencies responsible for administering such programs;]~~

137 ~~[(ii) evaluating the overall participation of children in existing federal, state, and local~~  
138 ~~child care programs and early childhood health, development, family support, and education~~  
139 ~~programs;]~~

140 ~~[(iii) recommending statewide professional development and career advancement plans~~  
141 ~~for early childhood educators and service providers in the state, including an analysis of the~~

142 capacity and effectiveness of programs at two- and four-year public and private institutions of  
143 higher education that support the development of early childhood educators; and]

144 [(iv) recommending improvements to the state's early learning standards and  
145 high-quality comprehensive early learning standards.]

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

150 Section 4. Section **26-66-204** is enacted to read:

151 **26-66-204. Reports.**

152 (1) (a) On or before August 1 of each year, the council shall provide an annual report to  
153 the executive director, the executive director of the Department of Workforce Services, and the  
154 state superintendent.

155 (b) The annual report shall include:

156 (i) a statewide assessment concerning the availability of high-quality pre-kindergarten  
157 services for children from low-income households;

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

160 (A) identifying opportunities for and barriers to collaboration and coordination among  
161 federally-funded and state-funded child health and development, child care, and early  
162 childhood education programs and services, including collaboration and coordination among  
163 state agencies responsible for administering such programs;

164 (B) evaluating the overall participation of children in existing federal, state, and local  
165 child care programs and early childhood health, development, family support, and education  
166 programs;

167 (C) recommending statewide professional development and career advancement plans  
168 for early childhood educators and service providers in the state, including an analysis of the  
169 capacity and effectiveness of programs at two- and four-year public and private institutions of

170 higher education that support the development of early childhood educators; and  
171 (D) recommending improvements to the state's early learning standards and  
172 high-quality comprehensive early learning standards; and  
173 (iii) the recommendations described in Subsection 26-66-202(1)(e).  
174 (2) In addition to the annual report described in Subsection (1)(a), on or before August  
175 1, 2024, and at least every five years thereafter, the council shall provide to the executive  
176 director, the executive director of the Department of Workforce Services, and the state  
177 superintendent, a statewide needs assessment concerning the quality and availability of early  
178 childhood education, health, and development programs and services for children in early  
179 childhood.

180 Section 5. Section **63I-1-226** is amended to read:

181 **63I-1-226. Repeal dates: Title 26 through 26B.**

182 (1) Section 26-1-7.5, which creates the Utah Health Advisory Council, is repealed July  
183 1, 2025.

184 (2) Section 26-1-40 is repealed July 1, 2022.

185 (3) Section 26-1-41 is repealed July 1, 2026.

186 (4) Section 26-1-43 is repealed December 31, 2025.

187 (5) Section 26-7-10 is repealed July 1, 2025.

188 (6) Subsection 26-7-11(5), regarding reports to the Legislature, is repealed July 1,  
189 2028.

190 (7) Section 26-7-14 is repealed December 31, 2027.

191 (8) Section 26-8a-603 is repealed July 1, 2027.

192 (9) Title 26, Chapter 9f, Utah Digital Health Service Commission Act, is repealed July  
193 1, 2025.

194 (10) Subsection 26-10-6(5), which creates the Newborn Hearing Screening Committee,  
195 is repealed July 1, 2026.

196 (11) Section 26-10b-106, which creates the Primary Care Grant Committee, is repealed  
197 July 1, 2025.

- 198            [~~(12)~~] Subsection ~~26-15c-104~~(3), relating to a limitation on the number of  
199 microenterprise home kitchen permits that may be issued, is repealed July 1, 2022.]
- 200            [~~(13)~~] (12) Subsection ~~26-18-2.6~~(9), which addresses reimbursement for dental  
201 hygienists, is repealed July 1, 2028.
- 202            [~~(14)~~] (13) Section ~~26-18-27~~ is repealed July 1, 2025.
- 203            [~~(15)~~] (14) Section ~~26-18-28~~ is repealed June 30, 2027.
- 204            [~~(16)~~] (15) Title 26, Chapter 18, Part 2, Drug Utilization Review Board, is repealed  
205 July 1, 2027.
- 206            [~~(17)~~] (16) Subsection ~~26-18-418~~(2), the language that states "and the Behavioral  
207 Health Crisis Response Commission created in Section ~~63C-18-202~~" is repealed July 1, 2023.
- 208            [~~(18)~~] (17) Section ~~26-33a-117~~ is repealed December 31, 2023.
- 209            [~~(19)~~] (18) Title 26, Chapter 33a, Utah Health Data Authority Act, is repealed July 1,  
210 2024.
- 211            [~~(20)~~] (19) Title 26, Chapter 36b, Inpatient Hospital Assessment Act, is repealed July  
212 1, 2024.
- 213            [~~(21)~~] (20) Title 26, Chapter 36c, Medicaid Expansion Hospital Assessment Act, is  
214 repealed July 1, 2024.
- 215            [~~(22)~~] (21) Title 26, Chapter 36d, Hospital Provider Assessment Act, is repealed July  
216 1, 2024.
- 217            [~~(23)~~] (22) Section ~~26-39-201~~, which creates the Residential Child Care Licensing  
218 Advisory Committee, is repealed July 1, 2024.
- 219            [~~(24)~~] (23) Section ~~26-39-405~~, Drinking water quality in child care centers, is repealed  
220 July 1, 2027.
- 221            [~~(25)~~] (24) Section ~~26-40-104~~, which creates the Utah Children's Health Insurance  
222 Program Advisory Council, is repealed July 1, 2025.
- 223            [~~(26)~~] (25) Section ~~26-50-202~~, which creates the Traumatic Brain Injury Advisory  
224 Committee, is repealed July 1, 2025.
- 225            [~~(27)~~] (26) Title 26, Chapter 54, Spinal Cord and Brain Injury Rehabilitation Fund and



226 Pediatric Neuro-Rehabilitation Fund, is repealed January 1, 2025.

227 [~~(28)~~] (27) Title 26, Chapter 66, Early Childhood Utah Advisory Council, is repealed  
228 July 1, [~~2026~~] 2029.

229 [~~(29)~~] (28) Title 26, Chapter 68, COVID-19 Vaccine Restrictions Act, is repealed July  
230 1, 2024.

231 [~~(30)~~] (29) Section 26-69-406 is repealed July 1, 2025.

232 [~~(31)~~] (30) Subsection 26B-1-204(2)(i), related to the Residential Child Care Licensing  
233 Advisory Committee, is repealed July 1, 2024.

234 [~~(32)~~] (31) Subsection 26B-1-204(2)(k), related to the Primary Care Grant Committee,  
235 is repealed July 1, 2025.

236 Section 6. **Repealer.**

237 This bill repeals:

238 Section 63M-13-101, **Title.**

239 Section 63M-13-102, **Definitions.**

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

241 Section 63M-13-202, **Duties of the commission.**

242 Section 63M-13-203, **Annual report.**