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NC Collaborative for Children, Youth and Families
DATE: April 9, 2020

Upcoming Pertinent Legislative Meetings:

Date and Time	Committee	Location
		Legislative Office Building (LOB) Legislative Building (LB) Audio link: https://www.ncleg.gov/Audio
April 9 th , 9:30 a.m.	House Select Committee on COVID-19, Health Care	1228/1327 LB, audio available
April 9 th , 2:00 p.m.	House Select Committee on COVID-19, Education	1228/1327 LB, audio available
April 15 th , 10:00 a.m. CANCELLED	North Carolina Child Well-Being Transformation Council	Virtual Meeting, audio available
April 28 th , 12:00 p.m.	House Session Convenes	Audio available
April 28 th , 12:00 p.m.	Senate Session Convenes	Audio available

House Select Committee on COVID-19

The [NC House Select Committee on COVID-19](#), Health Care Work Group, discussed the following tentative timeline to develop recommended budget and legislative changes needed to address COVID-19:

- Tuesday, April 14th, discussions possibly related to MH/IDD/SUD
- Thursday, April 16th, working session to develop their recommendations
- Thursday, April 23rd, review draft bills
- Tuesday, April 28th, session begins

TO GIVE YOUR INPUT, USE THEIR [COMMENT PORTAL](#) or contact your House members directly.

**Note: Dates are not reflected in the chart above because they have not been formalized.*

Families First Coronavirus Response Act:

Running until December 31st, the Families First Coronavirus Response Act is offered for employees of small businesses (500 people or less) to get two weeks of paid sick leave at their regular pay due to Coronavirus. After this two weeks, employees would receive two additional weeks of paid sick leave at two-thirds their regular pay. For employees that have held their job for at least 30 days, employers MUST provide an additional 10 weeks of paid expanded family and medical leave. To more specifically qualify for this leave, employees can take the leave option if:

- During a Quarantine or Isolation Order, employees choose to take it even if there is still work available from their employer during the Coronavirus pandemic.
- Advised to take sick leave by a health care provider.
- Caring for an individual who is mandated to self-quarantine.
- Caring for their son or daughter due to school closures and no suitable caretaker for the children can be found.

CARES Act Takeaways:

Starting April 2020, the CARES Act:

- Expands unemployment benefits by \$600 a week for four months for all workers laid off from work during the Coronavirus pandemic with the exception of remote online workers and people already on paid leave. Regular unemployment is also extended to provide benefits for up to 39 weeks.
- Offers \$1,200 per adult and \$500 per child for households that make less than \$75,000.
- Funnel \$130 billion to hospitals, health care systems, and providers.
- Gives \$150 billion to state and local governments.

North Carolina DHHS Coronavirus Updates:

The Department of Health and Human Services continues to provide updates on the services being offered to the community, families, and stakeholders:

- Families receiving enhanced benefits from Food and Nutrition Services will [receive the maximum amount](#) allowed for April 2020.
- Child care and financial assistance for essential workers is offered through the NC Child Care Resource Hotline at 1-888-600-1685.
- The [COVID-19 Dashboard](#) is being updated daily for information on demographics, statistics, outbreaks, and hospital beds and supplies.
- Due to [executive orders](#), utilities cannot be disconnected during this time of crisis.
- [Daily press briefings](#) are offered from public health, emergency management, and other key leaders of the state during the pandemic.

Council for Exceptional Children Free Membership Offer:

The Council for Exceptional Children is currently offering free membership to educators, parents, and stakeholders that want to stay involved in advocacy for the education of children with and without disabilities. The free basic membership includes access to journal articles, discounts on publications and events, and an online member support

community of educators, administrators, and support personnel. To get the free basic membership, click [this link](#) and use the promotional code **CECED60** by May 31, 2020.

N.C. Bills we are tracking:

- [H5](#): Close the Medicaid Insurance Gap (see S3)
 - [H76](#): School Safety Omnibus
 - [H102](#): Enhance Permanency Innovation Institute (see S245)
 - [H121](#): Expunction Related to Raise the Age/No Conviction
 - [H234](#): Funds for Child Advocacy Centers
 - [H241](#): Education Bond Act of 2019
 - [H250](#): Dept. of Health and Human Services Revisions
 - [H291](#): Continue Social Services Regional Supervision and Collaboration Work Group (SSWG) and Extend Children's Council
 - [H297](#): Psychologist Interjurisdictional Compact
 - [H434](#): Suicide Risk Ref./Mental Health/Teen Violence
 - [H471](#): Reduce Administrative Duplication MH/DD/SAS Providers
 - [H555](#): Medicaid Transformation Implementation, the Senate has withdrawn this bill from the calendar and re-referred it to the Senate Committee on Rules and Operations.
 - [H580](#): Increase Foster Care Rates/Funds (see S636)
 - [H601](#): Funds for NAMI North Carolina, Inc.
 - [H613](#): Essential Services for Homeless Youth
 - [H655](#): NC Health Care for Working Families, the bill was re-referred to the House Committee on Health, received a favorable committee substitute, and was re-referred to the House Committee on Rules, Calendar, and Operations.
 - [H702](#): Modify Juvenile Crime Prevention Councils (see S555)
 - [H822](#): Comprehensive Behavioral Health Plan, the bill has been sent to the Senate, passed the 1st Senate reading, and has been sent to the Senate Committee on Rules and Operations.
 - [H825](#): Strengthen Child Fatality Prevention System: passed first reading and referred to the House Committee on Health.
 - [H826](#): Standardized Assessment/Foster Care Pilot
 - [H956](#): Funds/Youth Villages and Other Purposes
 - [H966](#): 2019 Appropriations Act, this bill was placed on the calendar for January 14, 2020, withdrawn from the calendar and re-referred to the Senate Committee on Rules and Operations.
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- [S3](#): Close the Medicaid Insurance Gap (see H5)
 - [S175](#): Funds/Eliminate NC Pre-K Waitlist
 - [S212](#): NC Fast/Early Child/Transformation/ACH Assess., the conference committees have been appointed.
 - [S245](#): Enhance Permanency Innovation Institute (see H102)
 - [S251](#): Modernization of Drug Court Programs

[S361](#): Healthy NC., the Senate failed to concur on the health committee substitution, so the Senate and House have appointed committee conferees for the bill.

[S382](#): School Psychologist Compensation and Recruitment (see H482)

[S427](#): Smart Start Funds (see H124)

[S476](#): Compt-Based Assess. & Mental Health/Teen Viol., after over three months of inactivity, the bill has conference committees appointed in the House and the Senate.

[S549](#): Child Welfare/Behavioral Health Pilot/Funds

[S624](#): Guilford County Mental Health Facility /Funds (see H360)

[S636](#): Increase Foster Care Rates/Funds (see H580)

N.C. Bills that have been signed into law:

[H75](#): School Mental Health Screening Study, presented to the governor and signed into law as Ch. SL 2019-222.

[S199](#): Child Sex Abuse/Strengthen Laws, the bill was presented to the governor and signed into law on 11/7/19 as Ch. SL 2019 – 245.

[H301](#): CIP Revisions/Juvenile Code, signed by the governor on 6/21/19 as Ch. SL 2019-33.

[S413](#): Raise the Age Modifications, signed into law on 8/1/19 as Ch. SL 2019-186.

[H609](#): Once known as Raise the Age Modifications but now labeled Salary Increases/Adult Correctional Employees, the bill was presented to and signed by the governor as Ch. SL 2019-208.

[H656](#): Medicaid Changes for Transformation, signed into law by the Governor on 7/4/19 as Ch. SL 2019-81.

[H1001](#): Raise the Age Funding, ratified, presented to the governor and signed into law on 10/14/19 as Ch. SL 2019-229.

Federal Bills We are Tracking:

[S.1172](#): Keep Our Promise to America's Children and Teachers Act: read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

[S. 1465](#): Childhood Outcomes Need New Efficient Community Teams: read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

[S. 1642](#): Increasing Access to Mental Health in Schools Act: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

[S. 1668](#): Defending Access to Mental Health Care Act: Read twice and referred to the committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

[S. 1670](#): Care Across Generations Act: read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

[H.R. 1109](#): Mental Health Services for Students Act of 2019: Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce

[H.R. 1301](#): Mental Health Telemedicine Expansion Act: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health

[H.R. 1395](#): Youth Mental Health Services Act of 2019: Referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor

[H.R. 1838](#): Social Security Child Protection Act of 2019: Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means

[H.R. 2702](#): Family First Transition and Support Act of 2019: Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means

[H.R. 2958](#): Increasing Access to Mental Health in Schools Act: Referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor

[H.R. 3074](#): Continuing Access to Mental and Behavioral Health Care Act: referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce

[H.R. 3116](#): State Flexibility for Family First Transitions Act: Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means

[H.R. 3438](#): Child Welfare Data Modernization Act: Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means

[H.R. 4025](#): Mental Health in Schools Excellence Program Act of 2019: Referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor.

[H.R. 4420](#): Timely Mental Health for Foster Youth Act: Referred to the Subcommittee on Worker and Family Support

[H.R. 4428](#): Greater Mental Health Access Act: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health

[H.R. 4602](#): Continuation of Useful Resources to States Act: Referred to the Subcommittee on Worker and Family Support

[H.R. 4835](#): Supporting Trauma-Informed Education Practices Act: referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor

[H.R. 5569](#): Early Childhood Mental Health Support Act of 2020: Referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor