


LEGISLATIVE WRAP-UP
1ST SESSION, 99TH MISSOURI GENERAL ASSEMBLY



MISSOURI CHILDREN'S LEADERSHIP COUNCIL
 JUDY DUNGAN
 JUNE 2017


Overview

Session marked by Senate drama and gridlock

- Drama—FY18 Budget amended on Senate floor to fully fund the school foundation formula
- Gridlock—Near record low number of bills sent to the Governor
 Only 75 bills TAFP—lowest since 2000


As significant for what didn't happen as what did

- Efforts to phase in PreK spending were thwarted



Major Highlights


- ◻ Full funding of the school foundation formula has triggered 2014 PreK law
- ◻ Level funding for most children's programs in the FY18 budget
- ◻ Funding for early childhood provider quality review
- ◻ Micro grants for disproportionate share providers
- ◻ Omnibus Child Safety Bill
- ◻ First step in neonatal/maternal levels of care designation




PreK

2014 Law/HB1689

- ◻ provided for foundation formula funding of PreK when the state aid formula was fully funded.
 - Fiscal note of \$64M to add 4% at-risk children.
- ◻ The FY18 budget included \$3.4B—full funding.
- ◻ Once achieved, legislators and some education lobbyists began to pursue a phase-in of PreK to control the added cost.
 - The last three weeks of the session were spent working against a phase-in.
 - A MOCLC priority was to allow school districts to contract with local childcare providers for PreK.
 - Shorter phase-in in exchange for authority to contract?
 - While avoided this year, the expectation is that phase-in efforts will resume for the FY19 budget.




FY2018 Budget



Children's Division

Program	FY2017	FY2018
Children's Division Administration	\$6,858,318	\$6,784,490
Children's Division Field Staff	\$86,384,302	\$85,976,302
Child Assessment Centers	\$2,950,523	\$2,950,523
Children's Treatment Services	\$22,462,111	\$22,154,961*
Crisis Care	\$2,050,000	\$2,050,000
Home Visitation	\$4,364,500	\$4,364,500



Child Welfare

Program	FY2017	FY2018
Cyber Crimes Task Force	\$0	\$500,000
Medicaid Case Management/ Traumatized Children	\$1,750,000 (restricted)	\$1,750,000
Children's Trauma Network	\$500,000 (restricted)	\$500,000
Child Abuse Prosecutor	\$0	\$74,000
SAFE-CARE	\$0	\$250,000
CASA		
Project Launch	\$901,659	\$901,659

Children's Division/Childcare Subsidy

Program	FY2017	FY2018
Child Care Subsidy	\$189.2M	\$186.4M

Reimbursement rates remain the same:

- 138FPL and below for full benefit
- 138FPL to 165FPL for 75% of benefit
- 165FPL to 190FPL for 50% of benefit
- 190FPL to 215 for 25% benefit

Disproportionate share program remains the same:

- 50% or more subsidy children
- Required to be accredited or making progress toward accreditation
- Micro grants of up to \$5,000 for help in achieving accreditation

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education/K-12

Program	FY2017	FY2018
Foundation Formula	\$3,344,691,268	\$3,392,907,149
Foundation Formula Transportation	\$105,297,713	\$105,297,713
Special Education, High Need	\$46,555,141	\$59,536,351
Dyslexia Training	\$100,000 (restricted)	\$250,000

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education/Early Ed

Program	FY2017	FY2018
Early Childhood Special Ed	\$170,840,842	\$183,209,718
First Steps	\$53,312,710	\$53,312,710
Parents as Teachers	\$18,000,000	\$18,000,000
Missouri PreSchool Project	\$12,313,317	\$12,851,554
Child Development Associate	\$399,500	\$399,500
Early Learning Quality Report	\$0	\$59,713
Right from the Start	\$900,000	\$900,000

Children's Division, Foster Care and Adoption


Program	FY2017	FY2018
Residential Treatment Services	\$135,460,360	\$122,051,305* \$17,000,000 to DMH
Parent Training	\$576,399	\$576,399
Educational Assistance	\$1,688,848	\$1,688,848
Case Management	\$39,719,303	\$39,183,803*
Adoption/Guardianship Subsidy	\$84,458,978	\$88,478,796*
Adoption Resource Centers	\$2,620,000	\$3,850,000
Independent Living	\$2,999,900	\$2,999,900
Transitional Living	\$2,918,887	\$2,918,887
Public Placement Fund	\$11,099,337	\$5,000,000

SB160 Omnibus Child Safety Bill

- Foster Care Bill of Rights (SB160 Sater)
- Investigative records of "unknown perpetrator" (HB1158 Franklin)
- Convicted sex offenders prevented from approaching children's museum (HB572 Swan)
- Joint Committee on Child Abuse and Neglect extended
- Kinship placement (HB260 Brown)
- Legal rights of juveniles in custody (HB768 Lant)
- Sex trafficking included in definition of abuse and neglect (HB260, Brown)

Foster Care Bill of Rights

- SB160 (Sater)
 - Became omnibus vehicle
 - Best interest of child is first priority
 - The practice of Children's Division will be, whenever appropriate, to return a child to the custody of their parent or guardian with whom the child resided immediately before state custody
 - When return to parent or guardian is not possible, the first priority is to place the child with suitable relatives
 - Children's Division shall pursue continuity in foster care
 - Children's Division will work with each child to pursue a permanency and case plan
 - Practice of the state will be to place siblings in the same care arrangement
 - When appropriate, Children's division will support regular visitation and communication between siblings and between children and their parents
 - When in the best interest of the child, Children's Division will support the attendance of those 12 years of age or older at any hearings regarding their placement, custody or care



Investigative Records/Unknown Perpetrator

- Court ruled that Children's Division did not have the authority to retain investigative records when child abuse has been substantiated, but perpetrator is unknown.
- CD faced a December 30, 2017 deadline to destroy records.
- HB1158 (Franklin) provided necessary authority.
- Also allows Children's Division to revisit records if new evidence arises.
- Included in Omnibus Children's Safety Bill SB160 (Sater)



Disappointment

2014 Child Care Development Block Grant reauthorization included new requirements to protect the safety and security of children in care.

- New regulations require FBI fingerprint background check for all employees and volunteers in contact with children.
- Also requires National Sex Offender Registry check.
- Includes licensed, license exempt and regulated providers.
- Requires new background checks whether or not provider receives subsidy.
- Committee chairs with jurisdiction feared that new compliance requirements will unduly burden providers and limit access to care.
- Issue will need to be revisited in 2018 to avoid penalty.






@JudyDunganMO



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