



Colorado Early Childhood Summit

A Coalition of Statewide Leaders in Early Childhood Care and Education

Colorado Alliance for
Quality School Age
Programs

Colorado Association for
the Education of Young
Children

Colorado Association of
Family Child Care

Colorado Children's
Campaign

Colorado Early Childhood
Councils Leadership
Alliance

Colorado Head Start
Association

Colorado Association for
Infant Mental Health

Colorado PTA

Colorado Parent and Child
Foundation

Early Childhood Education
Association of Colorado

Qualistar Colorado

Co-Chairs:

Kathryn Hammerbeck
Early Childhood Education
Association of Colorado
303.860.7174
kathryn@coloradoecea.org

Heather Tritten
Head Start State
Collaboration Director
303.866.3390
heather.tritten@state.co.us

House Bill 12-1218 – Early Childhood School Readiness Legislative Commission

Representative Peniston/Senator Hudak

Please Vote Yes on HB-1218

Background:

The Early Childhood and School Readiness Commission (ECSRC), a bipartisan legislative committee, was established by House Bill 09-1343 to enable in-depth study of a broad spectrum of early childhood issues during the interim between legislative sessions. Much like other similar committees (Water Resources Review Committee and Transportation Legislation Review Committee, for example), the ECSRC provides a forum for experts to present issues for legislative study and debate without the time pressure of the regular legislative sessions. The ECSRC gives the legislature the opportunity to weigh in on the formation process of important legislation.

What this legislation will do:

- Extend the repeal date of the Early Childhood School Readiness Legislative Commission to July 1, 2015
- Authorize reimbursement for the members of the commission
- Authorize the legislative staff to work with the commission

Why support the Early Childhood School Readiness Legislative Commission:

- The Early Childhood and School Readiness Legislative Commission gives the legislature the opportunity to influence the formation of important legislation before session begins.
- The ECSRC has been instrumental in elevating the attention given to the needs of Colorado's youngest citizens by working to ensure that Colorado invests in and improves the programs and services that serve this population.
- The Commission has passed legislation to ensure that existing childhood services work properly. For example, in 2010, the Commission endorsed and passed a series of bills that resulted in a stronger, more aligned system for children receiving child care subsidies through the Colorado Child Care Assistance Program.
- As we learn more about the importance of the early childhood years and how our state's investments in the programs that support young children impact not only their long-term outcomes but our state's, it is critical that this Commission continue its work to champion the needs of this population.

The members of the Early Childhood Summit urge your YES vote on HB-1218