

Breakout Groups for Early Childhood & School Readiness Legislative Commission

- 1) **Child welfare, engaging in home visitation, and transitioning to kindergarten- *Senator Marble***
 - food insecurity
 - parent, family member, or guardian mental health issues
 - abuse & neglect
 - two generation approach
 - for new parents
 - kids and school readiness
 - pilot transition program in every district based on models being used in DPS and APS

- 2) **Teachers- *Senator Martinez Humenik***
 - programs available to early childhood education teachers in higher Ed
 - professional development opportunities / credentialing
 - scholarship establishment – partners, state, federal grants
 - need for adequate pay
 - lack of diversity
 - recruitment and retention issues

- 3) **Childcare licensing, demographics, and family, friend and neighbor care- *Representative Wilson***
 - where are child care deserts and a need for licensed child care?
 - initiate opportunities to allow undocumented folks to obtain childcare licenses (similar to NM, CA & AZ)
 - determine the demographics of kids 0-6 in Colorado
 - how to address early childhood needs in these populations
 - family, friend, and neighbor child care and preschools

- 4) **Equalizing access to care, funding and resources across districts & Childcare Contribution Tax Credit, Early Learning Challenge Grant, & SB 191- *Senator Merrifield***
 - lack of consistency
 - continuity of care when moving across county lines
 - capacity issues
 - increasing Colorado Preschool Program (CPP) slots - fiscal impact?
 - tax credit not being utilized by families - is information not being shared? Improvements need to be made?
 - determine if grant funds being applied for, received, and used effectively
 - discuss SB 191 in greater detail

- 5) **Bills by the Commission- *Representative Petterson***
 - statutes that are flawed - what needs to be fixed so the bill intent can be realized?
 - bills that have been brought forward since the commission was enacted that didn't pass
 - what bill or bills does the commission want to bring forward in 2016?