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Notes from ECSRLC Group #4 Meeting, Aug. 31, 2015

Goals:

- Propose a bill to remove requirement that licensed preschool teachers are subject to effectiveness evaluations based on SB 10-191; also, remove K-2 teachers from this requirement (in same or separate bill). Neither the School Readiness Assessment nor the READ Act assessments are appropriate to evaluate teachers.
- Propose a bill like HB 15-1024, adding more slots to the Colorado Preschool Program, or put it in the School Finance Act, if possible. If the stakeholders strongly prefer the slots to go into ECARE (Early Childhood At-Risk Enhancement) in order to be flexible (to be available for full-day kindergarten as well), expand eligible providers to include community-based child care including family child care.
- Expand the Child Care Contribution Tax Credit to allow providers to use the money to apply for a quality rating through Colorado Shines.
- Create a trigger in the Child Tax Credit for Colorado like the one proposed in the federal Marketplace Fairness Act to allow a \$200 credit for each child under 5 if a tax on Internet sales is approved.

Also discussed:

- Make eligibility for CCCAP (Colorado Child Care Assistance Program) portable across county lines. The problem with this is that different counties have different percentages of FPL (Federal Poverty Level) in their eligibility requirements, and they may have waiting lists already. Ask Charlotte Brantley or Noel Nelson from the 1317 Implementation Task Force for input on this.
- Find a way to make more families aware of the Child Care Tax Credit. The Piton Foundation has been successful in doing this in Denver. Ask Steffanie Clothier about what they did.
- Provide state funding for the projects currently funded through the Early Learning Challenge Grant, so that funds are available for new licensed child care providers to receive a quality rating and new teachers/providers in child care can access the trainings through the PDIS (Professional Development Information System).