STATE OF MINNESOTA

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

MARK DAYTON
GOVERNOR

Executive Order 11-05

Creating the Early Learning Council

I, Mark Dayton, Governor of the State of Minnesota, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and applicable statutes, do hereby issue this Executive Order:

Whereas, making sure that every child arrives at kindergarten ready to learn is a priority of this administration; and

Whereas, making affordable, quality early childhood education and care available to all children is a priority of this administration; and

Whereas, quality early education, all day kindergarten, and reading by grade three are all proven strategies to help close the achievement gap so that all students in Minnesota have full opportunities to succeed; and

Whereas, there is a need to identify opportunities for, and address barriers to, the coordination of federal and state early childhood policies and procedures that impact the well-being of Minnesota's youngest children; and

Whereas; under the federal Improving Head Start for School Readiness Act of 2007, Public Law 110-134, the Governor must either designate or establish a state advisory council on early childhood education and care; and

Whereas, on September 25, 2008, Executive Order 08-14 created the State Advisory Council on Early Childhood Education and Care; and

Whereas, Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.141, enacted in 2008, added members and duties to the State Advisory Council on Early Childhood Education and Care and gave other directions to the advisory council, but did not codify the council in statute; and

Whereas, on August 16, 2010, Executive Order 10-11 extended Executive Order 08-14 until 90 days after Governor Tim Pawlenty left office;

Now, Therefore, under Minnesota Statutes, section 15.0593, I hereby create the Early Learning Council to serve as the state advisory council on early childhood education and care under Public Law 110-134 and Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.141.

1. The council consists of up to 30 members, 26 of whom are appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Governor.
2. The following individuals are members of the council:
   a. Commissioner of Human Services or a designee;
   b. Commissioner of Health or a designee;
   c. Commissioner of Education or a designee; and
   d. The Head Start State Collaboration Director.
3. The Governor will appoint up to 22 additional members, including individuals with the following expertise, affiliations, or backgrounds:
   a. Representatives of local government groups;
   b. Representatives of local school districts;
   c. Individuals with Head Start expertise;
   d. Providers of early childhood supports and services;
   e. Representatives of higher education;
   f. Individuals whose families receive early childhood supports or services;
   g. Individuals from non-profits involved in early childhood issues;
   h. Members of the business community; and
   i. Representatives of the philanthropic community.
4. Four members of the Legislature, as provided in Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.141, will serve as members of the council.
5. Any compensation of legislative members will be from money appropriated to the Legislature and governed by the rules of the Legislature. The Legislature will determine the term of members appointed by the Legislature.
6. The Governor will appoint one member to serve as the chair of the council.
7. The council shall advise the Children's Cabinet and the Governor's Office on policy and resource development priorities and will suggest options.
8. The Commissioner of Education will provide general administrative and technical support to the council.
9. The council will make its meetings open to the public and provide an opportunity for public comment.

10. Any money made available to administer the council may be used to reimburse expenses of parent members on the council and for technical assistance and administrative support of the council.
11. The council may pursue additional funding from state, federal or private sources.
12. Executive Order 10-11 is rescinded.

Under Minnesota Statutes, section 4.035, subdivision 2, this Executive Order is effective 15 days after publication in the State Register and filing with the Secretary of State and remains in effect until 90 days after I leave office, unless superseded by law or executive order.

In Testimony Whereof, I have set my hand on March 17, 2011.

Mark Dayton
Governor

Filed According to Law:

Mark Ritchie
Secretary of State