



THE EARLY CHILDHOOD INVESTMENT CORPORATION

CAPITOL

CORNER

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Budget and Appropriations Update

Congress approved a final FY 2010 Budget Resolution last week, calling for \$1.086 trillion in discretionary spending. Next up, the House and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees will set specific funding levels for the programs within their jurisdiction. Meanwhile, the President is slated to release the details of his FY 2010 Budget at 3pm tomorrow.

Legislation of Interest

MediKids Health Insurance Act of 2009 (S 958)

On May 1, 2009 Sen. John Rockefeller (D-WV) introduced a bill to amend the Social Security Act to guarantee comprehensive health care coverage for all children born after 2009. The bill currently has two cosponsors and was referred to the Senate Committee on Finance. To view a copy of the bill, visit http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=111_cong_bills&docid=f:s958is.txt.pdf.

Prepare All Kids Act of 2009 (HR 2184)

On August 30, 2009 Rep. Carolyn Maloney (D-NY) introduced a bill to assist states in making voluntary high-quality universal prekindergarten programs available to 3- to 5-year olds for at least one year preceding kindergarten. The bill currently has five cosponsors and was referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor. To view a copy of the bill, visit http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=111_cong_bills&docid=f:h2184ih.txt.pdf.

Education Begins at Home Act of 2009 (HR 2205)

On August 30, 2009 Rep. Danny Davis (D-IL) introduced a bill to expand quality programs of early childhood home visitation that increase school readiness, child abuse and neglected prevention, and early identification of developmental and health delays, including potential mental health concerns. The bill currently has four cosponsors and was referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor. To view a copy of the bill, visit http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=111_cong_bills&docid=f:h2205ih.txt.pdf.



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American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Resources

In addition to the wealth of knowledge available on the Department of Education and White House websites, several new resources for early childhood stimulus information have been posted. Pre-K Now has put together a wonderful source of information on the stimulus as it relates to early education. Of particular interest to ECIC, they have compiled papers from other organizations and think tanks on “Blending and Braiding Funds” for early childhood education and care. For more information, visit www.preknow.org/resource/recovery_roundup.cfm.

The National Association for the Education of Young Children has also developed a page on the use of ARRA funds. The website features a new paper on how to use stimulus funds for the professional development of early childhood educators. For more information, visit www.naeyc.org/policy/arra/.

Zero to Three’s ARRA Interactive Tool is also available to download. The *Navigating the Opportunities for Families with Young Children in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)* tool is “intended to help decision makers and advocates navigate the ways in which ARRA funds may be used to positively impact the healthy development of our youngest children.” For more information, visit [www.zerotothree.org/site/DocServer/Interactive Stimulus Tool v3vs.pdf?docID=8121](http://www.zerotothree.org/site/DocServer/Interactive_Stimulus_Tool_v3vs.pdf?docID=8121).

Family Child Care Quality

The Herr Research Center for Children and Social Policy at the Erikson Institute released a new policy brief on family child care titled *“The Family Child Care Network Impact Study: Promising Strategies for Improving Family Child Care Quality.”* The report offers recommendations for government and policy makers hoping to improve the quality of care in family child care homes. The report is available at <http://www.erikson.edu/downloads/cmsFile.ashx?VersionID=3784&PropertyID=78>.