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# Mid-Session Check In

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Genevieve Stokes  
*Government Affairs Advisor*

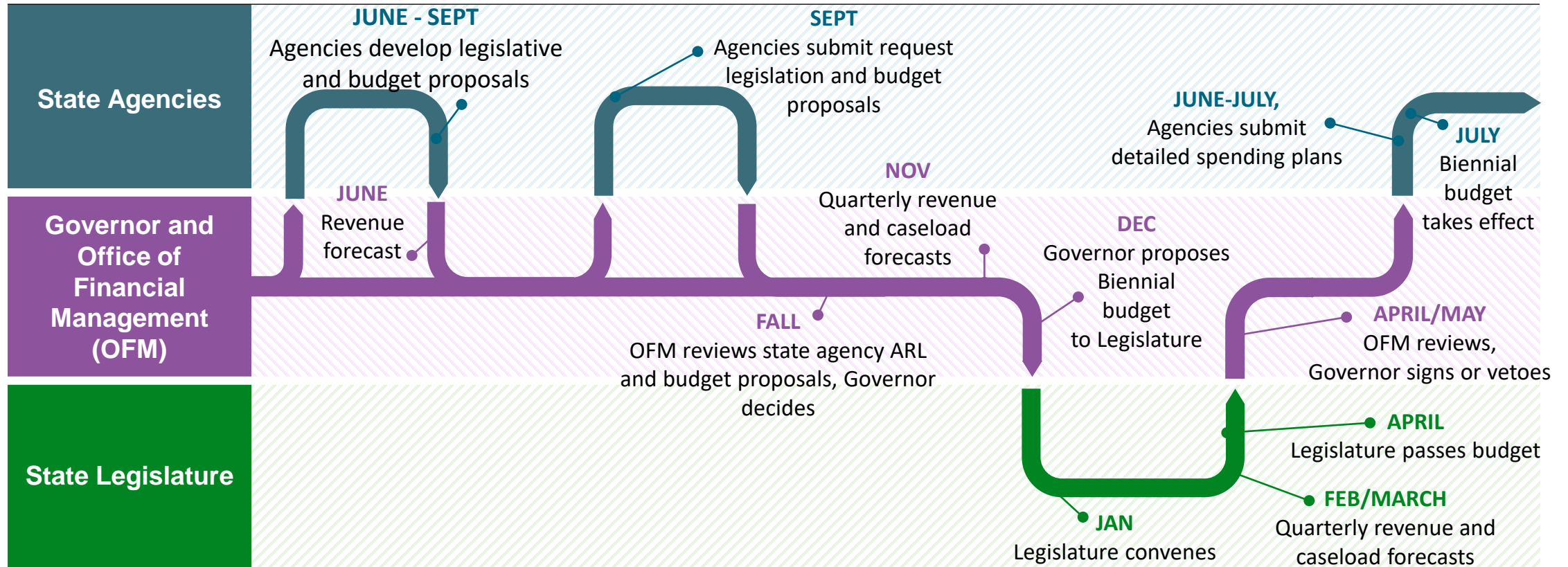
*March 13, 2023*



Washington State Department of  
**CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES**



# Legislative Process



# Early Learning Bills

Bill #	Title	Summary
<b><u>HB 1447</u></b>	Strengthening the ability of assistance programs to meet foundational needs of children, adults, and families.	This bill makes changes to TANF eligibility at DSHS, resulting in a small increase in WCCC caseload.
<b><u>HB 1525</u></b>	Concerning eligibility for working connections child care benefits for persons participating in state registered apprenticeships.	Expands eligibility for Working Connections Child Care program benefits to apply to persons in the first 12 months of a state registered apprenticeship when the person meets certain additional criteria.
<b><u>HB 1550</u></b>	Assisting eligible children in need of additional preparation to be successful in kindergarten by establishing the transition to kindergarten program.	Shuts down the Transitional Kindergarten program from basic ed, creates a new program called Transition to Kindergarten funded by appropriations, imposes new quality requirements to this program.



# Early Learning Bills

Bill #	Title	Summary
<b><u>SB 5225</u></b>	Increasing access to the working connections child care program.	Expands WCCC eligibility to include child care employees up to 85% SMI and families participating in therapeutic or specialty courts. Prohibits DCYF from considering immigration status of an child for WCCC eligibility.
<b><u>SB 5316</u></b>	Concerning background check and licensing fees for programs administered by the department of children, youth, and families.	Permanently removes fees for background checks for child care, group foster care, and CPAs. Permanently removes licensing fees for child care providers.

# Other Bills of Note

Bill #	Title	Summary
<b><u>HB 1188</u></b>	Concerning individuals with developmental disabilities that have also received child welfare services.	Includes children who are in the custody of DCYF and in the custody of a federally recognized tribe with territories in the state of WA Requires that the Caseload Forecast Council forecast the number of children and youth who are functionally eligible for DDA services who are subject to a dependency or exiting a dependency Requires DDA to develop a new federal waiver to serve dependent children and youth with DDA services
<b><u>SB 5256</u></b>	Making permanent and expanding the child welfare housing assistance program.	Makes the pilot program permanent and expands eligibility to parents for whom lack of housing is a barrier to reunification or for the child to remain at home.
<b><u>SB 5683</u></b>	Concerning child-specific foster care licenses for placement of Indian children.	Allows the Department of Children, Youth and Families to issue child specific foster care licenses for an Indian child's family or extended family members who opt to become licensed for placement of a specific Indian child and that child's siblings or relatives in the custody of an Indian tribe or the tribe's child placing agency.

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# THANK YOU

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**Genevieve Stokes**

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Washington State Department of  
**CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES**

A photograph of a white card with the words "Thank you" written in blue cursive. The card is placed on top of a brown envelope. The background is a plain, light-colored surface.

*Thank you*