

The Childcare Reform Bill Package

The Childcare Reform Package of bills (HBs 5041-5048) has been moving through the legislative process during the past four months. It's been passed by the House of Representatives and remains in the Senate awaiting a vote.

CPAOM has received word late last week that the Senate is likely to vote on the package, which is expected to pass, this week! The legislature's goal is to move the legislation to the Governor's desk for her signature and final approval before they break for the Holiday's.

Clean Drinking Water Access Act (SBs 184-185)

Senate Bills 184-185 were passed out of the Senate Environmental Quality Committee without changes on December 1, 2021. The bills would be devastating to Michigan Childcare Centers due to a host of unintended consequences - adding a fourth state department's oversight of the industry, mandating water testing/reporting, program/plan creation, water testing training, and costly facility upgrades without access to grant funding being provided to public school childcare programs.

CPAOM Board members and lobby team acted quickly last week and met with lawmakers to illustrate the problem areas. We also hand delivered a CPAOM opposition letter to all 38 senate offices while engaging with the Senate Majority Leader (Sen. Mike Shirkey) and his Chief of Staff. Our actions resulted in an agreement to slow the process down and halt a vote on the legislation until we are able to get the necessary changes to garner our support.

We are working with the bill sponsors to amend the legislation for consideration in 2022.