

# 2022 LEGISLATIVE SESSION RECAP

*The Louisiana Policy Institute for Children's Wins for Early Care and Education*



## \$44 million for early care and education in the state budget

The Legislature passed the state budget (HB 1), which includes \$44 million in funding to improve early care and education—\$25 million to expand CCAP and around \$18 million to improve rates offered to existing four-year-old programs. Special thanks to Representative Jerome Zeringue who authored the bill.

## \$40 million in one-time funding for the Louisiana Early Childhood Education Fund

The Legislature passed a supplemental funding bill (HB 406) which appropriates \$40 million in one-time funding to the Louisiana Early Childhood Education Fund to incentivize cities and parishes to invest in the expansion of high-quality early care and education. Special thanks to Representative Jerome Zeringue who authored the bill.

## \$27 million over three years for Early Childhood Services and Supports program

In HB 1 and HB 406, the Legislature included funding for 3 years to revive a previously cut program that offered families with young children mental health and wrap-around services. Along with our partners, we are thrilled to study what this additional funding will do to help families thrive, and are hopeful that we can show policymakers concrete results to ensure the program will be funded in perpetuity. Special thanks to Representative Jerome Zeringue who authored the bill.

**During the legislative session, we partnered with NOLA.com and placed geo-targeted digital ads in the Capital region.**

The click-through rate (CTR) for Ready Louisiana's static ads exceeded the industry average by 1,600%. The video completion rate for Ready Louisiana's video ad was 90.79% and had a combined play time of 24 days, 10 hours and 59 minutes.

**235 advocates sent 310 emails to legislators in support of HB 1, HB 406, HB 460, and SB 47 throughout the 2022 legislative session.**

## Certain parishes can invest in early education as a juvenile justice prevention effort

The Legislature passed HB 460 which seeks to expand the purposes for certain parishes<sup>1</sup> to repurpose juvenile justice funding to include preventative services for young children and their families. These services include increasing access to early care and education and investing in early care and education infrastructure and parental support. Special thanks to Representative Ken Brass who authored the bill.

<sup>1</sup> Acadia, Allen, Assumption, Beauregard, Bienville, Caddo, Caldwell, Cameron, Catahoula, Concordia, East Carroll, Evangeline, Franklin, Iberia, Jefferson, Lafayette, Lafourche, LaSalle, Madison, Orleans, Rapides, Richland, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, Tensas, Vermilion, Vernon, West Carroll

## School districts will work to expand access to high-quality early care and education

The Legislature passed SB 47 which requires school districts to work toward offering year-round, full-day pre-kindergarten to all four-year-olds. Special thanks to Senator Cleo Fields who authored the bill.

## The Early Childhood Care and Education Commission will establish a new revenue and compensation task force

The Legislature passed SB 169 which requires the Early Childhood Care and Education Commission to establish a task force that will recommend strategies for alternative state and local funding for quality early childhood care and education and workforce compensation and benefits issues within the early childhood care and education field. Special thanks to Senator Beth Mizell who authored the bill.