

Strong States, Strong Nation

Wisconsin Early Care and Education Legislative Symposium

May 23, 2018

Madison, WI | 411 South Room



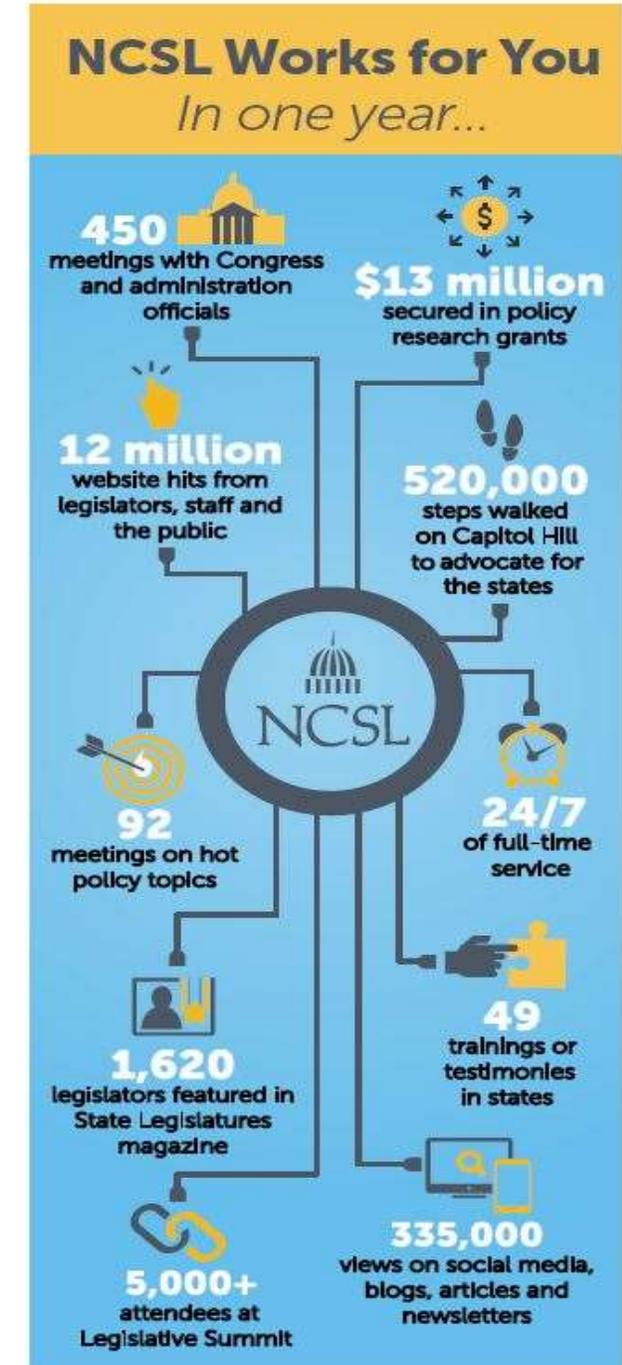
 NATIONAL CONFERENCE *of* STATE LEGISLATURES

Who is NCSL?



Bipartisan organization serving legislators and staff in all 50 states and territories

- Improve the quality and effectiveness of state legislatures
- Provide state legislatures a strong, cohesive voice at the federal level
- Promote policy innovation and communication among state legislatures





NCSL's Early Care and Education Project

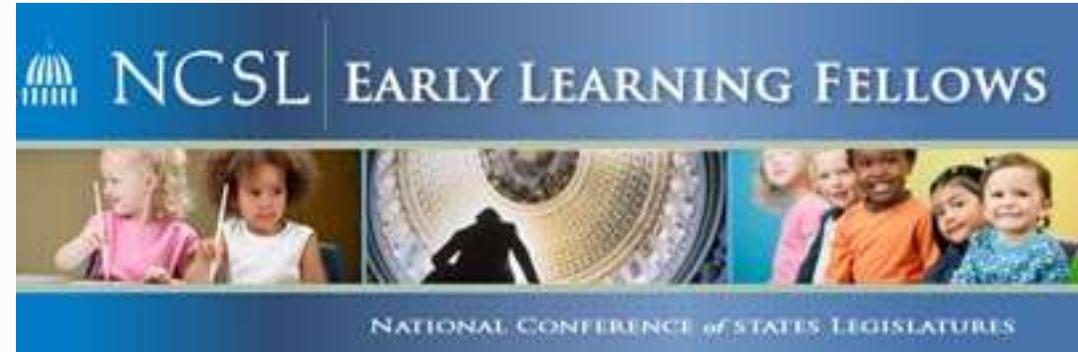
- ▣ Convene Meetings
- ▣ Policy Topics
 - brain science
 - child care
 - prekindergarten and school readiness
 - early childhood workforce and much more
- ▣ Quarterly Newsletter
- ▣ Legislation Database
- ▣ LegisBriefs, web briefs, web documents, blogs



NCSL's Early Learning Fellows Program



- Program began in 2011
 - ▣ face-to-face meetings
 - ▣ webinars
 - ▣ peer learning environment for participants
- For NCSL members of human services, education or appropriation committees, that are experienced in, or interested in learning more about early childhood and early learning issues.
- Topics covered: brain science, home visiting, child care, pre-K, school readiness/transitions, early childhood data, and early math., etc.
- www.ncsl.org/fellows
- Funders: Alliance for Early Success, Buffett Early Childhood Fund, Heising-Simons Foundation, Kellogg Foundation.





NCSL's Early Learning Fellows Program

- More about the participants
 - ▣ Participation from 48 states and 2 territories
 - ▣ Approximately 180 legislators or legislative staff have participated.
 - ▣ The Alumni Network numbers approximately 140 NCSL members throughout the states and territories.
- Political make-up is always bipartisan with republicans, democrats and non-partisan members and partisan and non-partisan legislative staff.

NCSL's Early Learning Fellows Program

What EL Fellows have said about the program...



Representative Donny C. Lambeth (R) NC 5th cohort: “Rarely does participation in a training program have a significantly profound impact on the work in which I am involved; however, my experiences with the Early Learning Fellowship Program did just that...The program provided new tools and proven models of success which...will assist educators in my State build a positive foundation for children who need the most support. “



Senator Kate Sullivan (NP) NE: 3rd cohort: “The Fellows program has been a unique and rewarding experience in so many ways: learning from and networking with colleagues from other states, hearing about research and cutting-edge information on early learning, and (most of all) applying all of this to actual steps to take in our respective states. Great action-oriented program.”



Representative Susan Lontine (D) CO 4th cohort: “Beginning with the first series of the fellows program, I have learned so much about cutting edge research into early childhood brain science, policy that pushes the envelope and from providers putting best practices to work. The Early Learning Fellows program was such a great experience and I am putting what I learned to good use during this 2016 session by working on a bill that limits preschool suspensions and expulsions. Thanks to the staff at NCSL for their support!”

NCSL's Early Learning Fellows Program

What EL Fellows have done after the program...



- ❑ Continue to explore ideas
 - ❑ Propose legislation- home visiting, quality rating system, pre-K expansion, child care subsidy
 - ❑ Discuss creating a Children's Caucus in their state
 - ❑ Meet with stakeholders and other legislative colleagues
- ❑ Continue to participate with NCSL
 - ❑ Attend and/or present at invitational meetings and webinars
 - ❑ Become part of a working group such as NCSL's State Policy and Research for Early Education (SPREE) or Prenatal-to-Three Legislative Advisory Group
 - ❑ Encourage colleagues in their state to apply for the Fellows program
 - ❑ Request additional information



Resources



- ❑ [ECE Legislative Tracking Database](#)
- ❑ [Early Care and Education 101](#)
- ❑ [Quarterly E-newsletters](#)
- ❑ [Early Learning Fellows](#)
- ❑ [SPREE Report](#)



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