Early Learning Forum Agenda

- Brain Science
- Economic Case for Early Childhood
- Why Quality Matters
- Child Care Access, Affordability & Quality, Pre-K and Home Visiting
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

Alison May
Jennifer Palmer
Julie Poppe
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
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.
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
- Be an ambassador for EL Fellows program
- Request additional information
RESOURCES

- ECE Legislative Tracking Database
- Early Care and Education 101
- Quarterly Newsletters
- Building a Qualified and Supported Early Care and Education Workforce
- Early Learning Fellows Program 2011-2018 Alumni Report
CONTACT INFORMATION

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