



Legislative Committee Meeting
January 18, 2017, 08:15 a.m.
ELC Board Room

Committee Attendees: Alex Soto (Chair), Matthew Bruno (via conference call)

Committee Absentees:

Staff Attendees: Evelio Torres (via conference call), Diana Ragbeer (via conference call), Lisa Sanabria, Mercy Castiglione, Pamela Hollingsworth; Jackye Russell

I. Welcome and Introductions

Alex Soto

- A. Soto called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.
- A quorum was established with one (2) voting members.

II. Approval of Minutes

Alex Soto

- Motion to approve minutes by M. Bruno.
- Motion seconded by A. Soto.
- Motion was unanimously passed.

III. Legislative Visits

Evelio Torres

- E. Torres stated that the upcoming legislative visits will take place February 20 & 21 in Tallahassee and have begun to schedule meetings with all Miami Dade & Monroe Senators and representatives.

IV. Legislative Update

Evelio Torres

- E. Torres stated that there are approximately 25 bills that impact early learning. One of the most important ones is a bill stating that we would not have to contract with every single provider. Rodney MacKinnon of OEL supports this bill but there is not a lot of details on what the requirements for providers to contract with the ELC would be.
- E. Torres stated that information on all the bills is available on the Legislative update section of the ELC website.
- E. Torres stated that letters were sent to the entire Miami-Dade delegation, seeking their support to ensure Miami-Dade and Monroe do not lose any funding as a result of the funding formula that is being debated in the legislature. The letters were signed by the board chairs of the Children's Movement, the United Way, and the Children's Trust and by Adrian Alfonso. Having the support of all the chairs is helpful in our push to keep all ELC funding. ELC is asking that only new funding be included in the funding formula.



- E. Torres discussed providing advocacy training to providers in both Miami Dade and Monroe counties. The first training session will take place in January.

V. Public Comments

Alex Soto

VI. Adjourn

Alex Soto