



State of New Mexico

Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor

EXECUTIVE ORDER 2023-059

AMENDED ORDER ESTABLISHING THE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND CARE ADVISORY COUNCIL

WHEREAS, the Improving Head Start for School Readiness Act of 2007, Pub. L. No. 110-134, § 11(b), 121 Stat. 1363, 1411 (2007) requires the Governor to create a State Advisory Council on Early Childhood Education and Care;

WHEREAS, such a council is integral to New Mexico's administration of the federal Child Care and Development Block Grant;

WHEREAS, Governor Susana Martinez, created the Governor's Early Learning Advisory Council to fulfil this role by issuing Executive Order 2018-017;

WHEREAS, the provisions of Executive Order 2018-017 are outdated and inadequate to address the bold priorities of my administration and the New Mexico Early Childhood Education and Care Department;

WHEREAS, it is necessary to create a new advisory council with updated duties and responsibilities;

WHEREAS, the creation of a single state Early Childhood Education and Care Department in New Mexico is a significant shift in state governance toward a coordinated system that integrates prenatal-to-five services; and

WHEREAS, a more robust advisory council is necessary to support the development of New Mexico's comprehensive early childhood care system.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor of the State of New Mexico, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the Laws of the State of New Mexico do hereby **ORDER** and **DIRECT** as follows:

1. Council Created; Purpose; Department Role: The Early Childhood Education and Care Advisory Council (the “Council”) established by Executive Order 2022-163 is hereby continued, effective immediately. The purpose of the Council is to assess issues relevant to the New Mexico Early Childhood Education and Care Department (the “Department”) and advise, inform, and make recommendations to the Secretary of the Department in support of its commitment to create a more cohesive, equitable, and effective early childhood education and care system in New Mexico. The Council’s duties will cover the services, programs, and policies administered by the Department, including those involving other state agencies. The Council recommendations shall be guided by the New Mexico Early Childhood Statewide Strategic Plan and the Department’s agency strategic plan. The Council shall be administratively attached to the Department. The Department shall periodically provide updated strategic priorities for use by the Council, and the Department may seek advice and recommendations when updating its strategic priorities.

2. Duties. The Council shall:

a. Assess the quality and availability of early childhood education and development programs and services for children from birth to school entry;

b. Identify opportunities for, and barriers to, collaboration and coordination among federally funded and state-funded child development, child care, and early

childhood programs and services, including collaboration and coordination among state agencies responsible for administering such programs;

c. Develop recommendations for increasing the overall participation of children in existing publicly supported child care and early childhood education programs, including outreach to underrepresented and special populations;

d. Develop recommendations regarding statewide professional development and career advancement plans for early childhood educators in the State;

e. Assess the capacity and effectiveness of 2- and 4-year public and private institutions of higher education in the State in supporting the development of early childhood educators, including the extent to which such institutions have in place articulation agreements, professional development and career advancement plans, and practice or internships for students to spend time in early childhood education and care programs;

f. Recommend improvements to the State early learning standards;

g. Hold public hearings and provide an opportunity for public comment on the activities described in this section;

h. Provide an annual report on the work of the Council to the Governor the Director of the Children's Cabinet, and the Secretary of the Department, and, subject to approval from the Governor, the Legislature; and

i. Perform any other duties necessary to satisfy the requirements of the Improving Head Start for School Readiness Act of 2007.

3. Ex Officio Members. The Council shall consist of the following ex officio members, whom shall have the right to vote:

- a. The Director of the Children’s Cabinet, or their designate;
- b. The Secretary of the New Mexico Early Childhood Education and Care Department, or their designate;
- c. The Secretary of the New Mexico Public Education Department, or their designate;
- d. The Secretary of the New Mexico Higher Education Department, or their designate;
- e. The Secretary of the New Mexico Department of Health, or their designate;
- f. The Secretary of the New Mexico Human Services Department, or their designate;
- g. The Secretary of the Children, Youth and Families Department, or their designate; and
- h. The Director of the New Mexico Head Start State Collaboration Office, or their designate.

4. Additional Appointed Members. The Governor shall appoint one representative from each of the following entities:

- a. A local educational agency;
- b. A local provider of early childhood education and development services;
- c. A Head Start agency; and
- d. An institution of higher education.

The Governor shall appoint up to eleven additional members to the Council having experience with, or knowledge of, one or more of those the following areas: behavioral health, business, early intervention, economic development, food and nutrition, health care, home visitation, local and tribal government, maternal and child health, parents of young children, philanthropy, public safety, and workforce development.

5. Membership and Meetings:

a. The appointed members in Section 4 shall serve for a term of three years, with staggered terms. To create staggered membership terms, approximately one-half of the members of the initial Council shall be appointed for two years and the remaining members for three years. No such member shall serve more than two consecutive full terms. Any vacancy occurring other than by expiration of term shall be filled by appointment by the Governor for the unexpired term. Appointed members shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor and shall have the same membership rights as ex officio members.

b. The members shall not be compensated for their service, other than per diem allowed under the Per Diem and Mileage Act.

c. The Council shall meet at least six times over the course of the year.

d. The Department Secretary shall designate the Council Chair and Vice Chair.

e. A majority of the members constitutes a quorum for the conduct of business.

The Council shall meet at the call of the chair. The chair shall coordinate the activities of the Council.

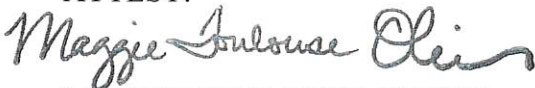
- f. A simple majority vote by the Council is sufficient to approve motions.
- g. The Council may form subcommittees or task forces to facilitate its work.

Subcommittees or task forces and their members shall be approved by the Council and may include persons who are not Council members, but who have an interest or expertise that is relevant to the purpose of the Council.

I FURTHER ORDER and DIRECT as follows:

1. This Order supersedes Executive Order 2022-163, as well as any previous orders, proclamations, or directives to the extent they are in conflict.
2. This Order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect until renewed, modified, or rescinded.

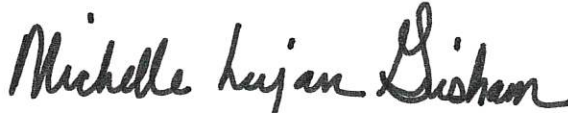
ATTEST:



MAGGIE TOULOUSE OLIVER
SECRETARY OF STATE

DONE AT THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE
THIS 12TH DAY OF MAY 2023

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE GREAT
SEAL OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO



MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM
GOVERNOR

