

**MINUTES**  
**HOUSE EARLY CHILDHOOD PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE OF EDUCATION**  
**Tuesday, September 30, 2025**  
**1:00 PM**  
**Room A, MAC**  
**Little Rock, Arkansas**

---

Committee members present: Representatives Denise Garner, Chair; Karilyn Brown, Vice Chair; Tony Furman, Julie Mayberry, Stetson Painter, DeAnn Vaught, Keith Brooks, ex officio, and Brit McKenzie, ex officio

Other members present: Senators Jonathan Dismang, Jim Dotson, Jane English, Stephanie Flowers, Kim Hammer, Missy Irvin, Mark Johnson, Fredrick J. Love, and Matt Stone; Representatives Brandon Achor, Fred Allen, Glenn Barnes, Lincoln Barnett, Joey L. Carr, Paul Childress, Andrew Collins, Nicole Clowney, Cameron Cooper, James Eaton, Denise Ennett, Kenneth B. Ferguson, Jimmy Gazaway, Dolly Henley, Steve Hollowell, Ashley Hudson, Stephen Magie, Tippi McCullough, Jessie McGruder, Stephen Meeks, Shad Pearce, Aaron Pilkington, Chad Puryear, David Ray, Jay Richardson, Joy Springer, Tracy Steele, Steven Walker, and Jim Wooten

Representative Garner called the meeting to order.

**Discussion of Changes to Childcare Reimbursement**

Jacob Oliva, Secretary, Arkansas Department of Education; Christine Eichler, President, Arkansas Early Childhood Association; Dr. Stacey Pipkins, Owner & Director, Early Impressions Childcare and Preschool; Dr. Brendan Kelly, President, Arkansas State University System; Geania Dickey, Consultant, Arkansas State University Childhood Services; McKinley Hess, Executive Director, Conway Cradle Care; and Shahid Sheikh, Chief Executive Officer, Little Martians Learning Center discussed the changes to childcare reimbursement beginning October 1, 2025.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.