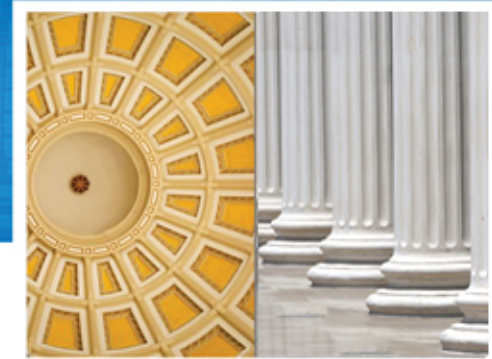




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August 6, 2018

The Family First Prevention Services Act:  
Opportunities for Legislatures  
Presentation to the New Mexico Courts  
Correction and Justice Committee

Children and Families Program

NCSL



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**Family  
First  
Prevention  
Services  
Act of  
2018  
(FFPSA)**

**Legislative Role in FFPSA  
Implementation and Oversight**

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**State Legislative Response**

FFPSA Planning: CO, HI, OR, WA

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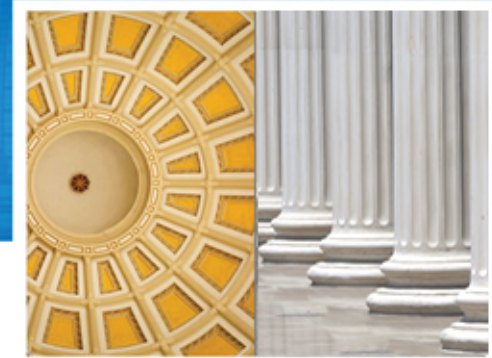
**Next Steps/First Steps for  
Lawmakers to Consider**

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# Legislative Role in FFPSA

- **FFPSA - a monumental shift in child welfare funding and structure**
- **Legislators can play key roles in educating members, convening stakeholders, planning, implementation and oversight**
  - **Time is critical**
  - **Ongoing process**



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## Legislative Role:

## Conveners of Important Stakeholders

- Reach out to your state child welfare agency; they should not make these decisions re: FFPSA in isolation.
  - Set up regular meetings during the interim to discuss FFPSA, assess state needs/concerns, examine potential benefits, implementation issues, costs, oversight, set priorities.
- 
- Child welfare, Medicaid, early childhood, courts, education, health and mental health, provider community, university and research partners, and others.
- 
- Foster youth (including transitioning youth), birth parents, kin caregivers, foster and adoptive parents.
- 
- Educate legislative colleagues, including members of Appropriations, Budget, Health, Education committees, and legislative audit, review, finance and similar departments.



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## Legislative Role:

### Planning, Implementation and Oversight

- Opportunity for long-range planning.
- Develop a process for planning, implementation and oversight.
- Encourage child welfare agency to take advantage of guidance released from federal HHS.
- Critical conversations on prevention: child welfare, Medicaid, Appropriations and Budget committees.

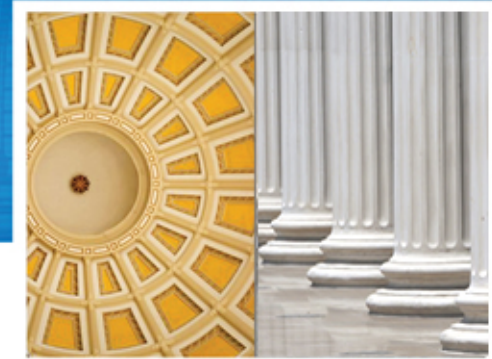
- Review existing policies, processes, standards.
- Examine CFSR results, plans in light of FFPSA.
- Look closely at FFPSA and other timelines.

- Review best practice in other states.
- Learn about evidence-based practice.
- Learn about the accreditation process.



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## State Legislative Response:

## CO 2018 SB 254, Chap. 216 Legislation

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1.  2018 CO SB 254, Chapter 216: Requires the state department to perform an analysis and cost projections to determine the fiscal impact of FFPSA. Child welfare allocation formulas must support the implementation of promising, supported, or well-supported practices as required by FFPSA.

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Each county must perform analysis of available in-home, family-like and out-of-home placements by July 1, 2019. By July 1, 2020, the department must report to the Joint Budget Committee on county utilization rates of those placements and provide an analysis of projected federal reimbursement pursuant to FFPSA.

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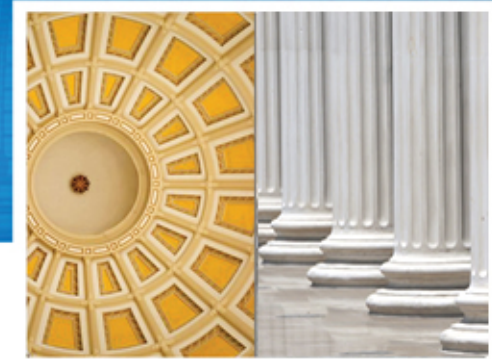
Creates a child welfare services task force to analyze laws and rules to ensure alignment with FFPSA.

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## State Legislative Response:

1.  Senate Human Services Committee established a “Three Branch” work group to address policy, budget and communication needs related to the implementation of FFPSA.

## OR Family First Implementation and Policy Work Group

- Central hub of communication
- Collaborate to identify actions for OR to meet requirements of FFPSA
- Meets monthly
- Staffed by legislative research office staff
- In-depth review of FFPSA
- Information on accreditation process
- Website – FFPSA legislation, timelines, meeting agendas, model licensing standards:

<https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/gelser/Pages/Family-First.aspx>

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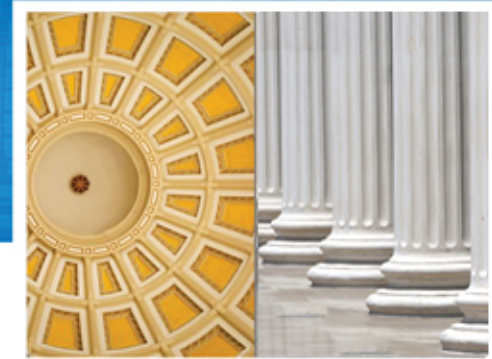
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## State Legislative Response: WA and HI

1.  Washington convened a work session, July 17, 2018
2.  Included members of Early Learning and Human Services, Health, Appropriations committees
3.  New Department of Children, Youth and Families
4.  Medicaid Director
5.  Washington State Institute on Public Policy (WSIPP), presented on evidence-based practice.

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- Hawaii convened an informational briefing June 19, 2018
  - Child welfare agency, Medicaid agency, other stakeholders
-





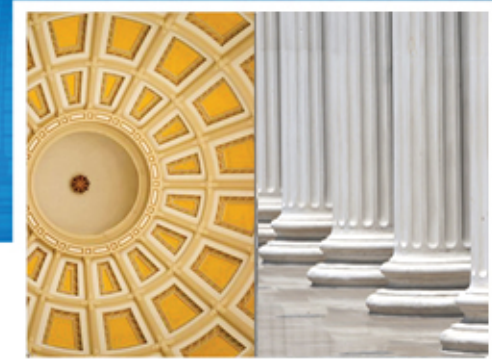
## Next Steps and Questions for Lawmaker Consideration

- Identify what services your state is currently funding.
    - What is the quality of those services? Are they evidence-based?
    - ~~How will you build up your evidence-based services capacity?~~
    - What does congregate care look like in your state?
    - What is your foster family capacity? How many are licensed, trained and prepared to accept children? What is your plan to increase capacity?
- 
- Examine requirements for accreditation.
-



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## Resources on Evidence Based Child Welfare

California Evidence-Based Clearinghouse for Child Welfare:

<http://www.cebc4cw.org/>

NCSL Family First Prevention Services Act webpage:

<http://www.ncsl.org/research/human-services/family-first-prevention-services-act-ffpsa.aspx>

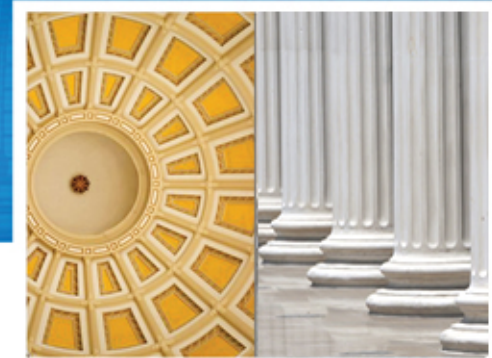
NCSL Child Welfare Webpage:

<http://www.ncsl.org/issues-research/human-services.aspx?tabs=858,51,16#16>



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## Contact NCSL

Nina Williams-Mbengue at 303-856-1559 or [Nina.mbengue@ncsl.org](mailto:Nina.mbengue@ncsl.org)

## Resources

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