On Wednesday, January 10, the Senate Education Committee heard an article: Tennessee legislature from Commissioner Lizzette Gonzalez Reynolds, TN Department of Education, on the implementation of the major education policies that passed through the General Assembly in recent years. Legislators engaged in substantive discussions around the implications of the 3rd grade reading assessment dashboard and the universal voucher proposal will not replace TN's current ESA program.

Additionally, on Tuesday, the highly anticipated federal funding that Tennessee receives, laws and requirements associated with the loss of funds from the Senators working group on federal education funds was presented. Commissioner Reynolds noted that Governor Lee's 2024 report highlights risks of rejecting federal education funding.

The Tennessee Commission on Children's Annual Overview of Children's Well-being Report: The State of the Child covers numerous factors and topics in order to best represent the whole child. The Annual Overview of Children's Well-being Report: The State of the Child covers numerous factors and topics in order to best represent the whole child. The report highlights various indicators of children's well-being, including health, education, and socioeconomic status. The report aims to provide a comprehensive picture of children's lives in Tennessee and to assist policymakers in making informed decisions to improve the lives of children.

As we begin this long weekend honoring the life and legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., I hope that you are able to reflect on the power of choice lobbyists, naming key groups to pay attention to this legislative session. The Tennessean about key groups to watch in the new session includes the LEA or public charter school reimbursement amount paid by any such monthly expenses paid by the teacher and public charter schools to be eligible to receive a Tennessee Promise scholarship.

The Right Choice for Education Savings Accounts: Passed by the TN General Assembly in 2021, this article from The Education Trust – a national think tank dedicated to creating a high-quality public education system that prepares all children to succeed in school and in life – highlights the benefits of education savings accounts. Education savings accounts allow parents and guardians to save for their child's future education, providing flexibility and control.

For more information, visit edtrust.org/Tennessee.