

**Bill Comparison Summary of  
Senate File 4410 (second unofficial engrossment) / Senate File 4410  
(third engrossment)**

**House Article 21: Child Care Policy  
Senate Article 5: Children and Family Services**

Senate Article 5: Children and Family Services

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**Comparison Summary of S.F. 4410 – House (S.F. 4410, second unofficial engrossment) / Senate (4410, third engrossment)**

Section	HOUSE Article 21: Child Care Policy		SENATE Article 5: Children and Family Services
1	<p><b>Applicant.</b> Amends § 119B.011, subd. 2. Changes the definition of “child care fund applicants” to include foster care families, relative custodians, and successor custodians or guardians receiving Northstar kinship assistance.</p> <p>Makes the section effective August 7, 2023.</p>	House only	
2	<p><b>Child care.</b> Amends § 119B.011, subd. 5. Changes the definition of “child care” to include care provided by foster care families, relative custodians, and successor custodians or guardians receiving Northstar kinship assistance.</p> <p>Makes the section effective August 7, 2023.</p>	House only	
3	<p><b>Family.</b> Amends § 119B.011, subd. 13. Changes the definition of “family” to include care provided by foster care families, relative custodians, and successor custodians or guardians receiving Northstar kinship assistance.</p> <p>Makes the section effective August 7, 2023.</p>	House only	
4	<p><b>Funding priorities.</b> Amends § 119B.011, subd. 13. Makes permanent the temporary changes the 2021 legislature made to how families are prioritized on the BSF child care assistance program waiting list.</p>	House only	

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5	<p><b>Subsidy restrictions.</b> Amends § 119B.13, subd. 1. Increases the maximum rate paid to child care providers for child care assistance to the 75th percentile of the most recent child care provider rate survey beginning October 3, 2022.</p>	House only	
6	<p><b>Child care resource and referral programs.</b> Amends § 119B.19, subd. 7. Requires child care resource and referral programs to: (1) administer the child care one-stop regional assistance network to provide assistance to child care providers and individuals interested in becoming providers; and (2) provide supports that enable economically challenged individuals to obtain the skills training, career counseling, and job placement assistance necessary to begin a career in child care.</p>	House only	
7	<p><b>Shared services grants.</b> Establishes § 119B.27. Directs DHS to establish a grant program to enable family child care providers to implement shared services alliances.  Makes the section effective July 1, 2023.</p>	House only	
8	<p><b>Child care provider access to technology.</b> Establishes § 119B.28. Directs DHS to provide grants to one or more organizations to offer grants or other supports to child care providers to improve their access to computers, the internet, and other technologies. Up to ten percent of the grant funds may be used for administration.</p>	House only	

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9	<p><b>Grant awards.</b> Removes the sunset date for the stabilization base grants for child care providers and removes the requirement that the grants are reduced between July 1, 2022, and June 30, 2023.</p>	<p>Different. House removes the sunset date for the grants and removes the requirement that the grants are reduced beginning July 1, 2022. Senate changes how FTEs are calculated for providers receiving base grants.</p>	<p><b>Section 3 (Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 7, article 14, section 21, subdivision 4)</b> amends the full-time equivalent calculation for child care providers receiving base grants.</p>
10	<p><b>Direction to commissioner of human services; allocating basic sliding fee funds.</b> Requires DHS to allocate additional money for the BSF program for calendar year 2024 to counties and Tribes to account for the change in the definition of family. Directs DHS to consider the number of children in a county or Tribe who receive care from foster care families, relative custodians, and successor custodians or guardians and the average cost of BSF care in the county or Tribe when allocating the additional money.</p>	<p>House only</p>	
11	<p><b>Direction to commissioner of human services; increase for maximum rates.</b> Requires DHS to allocate the additional money for the BSF program for calendar year 2023 to counties and Tribes for the updated maximum rates based on relative need to cover the rate increases. When allocating the funds among counties and Tribes, DHS must consider the number of children covered in each county or Tribe, provider types caring for covered children, age of covered children, and the amount of the increase in maximum rates.</p>	<p>House only</p>	

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12	<p><b>Direction to commissioner of human services; child care and development fund allocation.</b></p> <p>Directs DHS to make a onetime allocation of \$75,364,000 in fiscal year 2023 from the child care and development fund for child care assistance rate and registration fee increases.</p>	House only	
13	<p><b>Direction to commissioner of human services; cost estimation model for early care and learning programs.</b></p> <p>Directs DHS, in consultation with stakeholders, to develop a cost estimation model for providing early care and learning. Requires DHS to report to the legislature by January 30, 2024, on: (1) how the model can be used in conjunction with a child care provider wage scale to set provider payment rates for child care assistance; and (2) the department’s plan to seek federal approval to use the model for provider payment rates for child care assistance.</p>	House only	
14	<p><b>Direction to commissioner of human services; child care provider wage scale.</b></p> <p>Directs DHS to develop, in consultation with stakeholders, a child care provider wage scale that: (1) provides for wages that are equivalent to elementary school educators with similar credentials and experience; (2) incentivizes child care providers and staff to increase child care-related qualifications; and (3) accounts for the business structures of different types of providers. Requires DHS to report to the legislature on the development of the wage scale and how it could be used to inform payment rates under the child care assistance program by January 30, 2024.</p>	House only	

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15	<p><b>Direction to commissioner of human services; brain builders bonus pilot program.</b></p> <p>Directs DHS to develop and implement a pilot program to provide incentives and supports to eligible child care providers who care for infants and toddlers from low-income families. Requires DHS to report to the legislature on implementation of the program by January 31, 2024.</p>	House only	
16	<p><b>Direction to commissioner of information technology services; information technology systems for early childhood programs.</b></p> <p>Directs the commissioner of information technology services to develop and implement, to the extent practicable with the available appropriation, a plan to modernize the IT systems that support early childhood programs.</p>	House only	
17	<p><b>Repealer.</b></p> <p>Repeals § 119B.03, subd. 4, which is made obsolete by making permanent the changes to the BSF waiting list.</p>	House only	
18		Senate only	<p><b>Section 4 (QUALITY PARENTING INITIATIVE GRANT)</b> establishes a grant to Quality Parenting Initiative Minnesota to implement Quality Parenting Initiative principles and practices to support children and families in foster care placements.</p>