

1.1 A bill for an act

1.2 relating to

1.3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.4 Section 1. **DIRECTION TO COMMISSIONER; BASIC SLIDING FEE PROGRAM;**
1.5 **APPROPRIATION.**

1.6 Subdivision 1. **Appropriation.** (a) \$9,980,000 in fiscal year 2021 is appropriated from
1.7 the general fund to the commissioner of human services for modifications to the basic sliding
1.8 fee program in subdivision 2. Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 119B.03,
1.9 subdivisions 6, 6a, and 6b, funds must be distributed proportionately based on the average
1.10 number of families as reported on the most recent six months of published waiting lists,
1.11 weighted by the average cost per family in each of those counties over the same six month
1.12 period.

1.13 (b) \$1,521,000 in fiscal year 2021 is appropriated from the general fund to the
1.14 commissioner of human services for the transition year extension expenditures.

1.15 Subd. 2. **Temporary program changes.** The following changes to the basic sliding fee
1.16 program are in effect through April 30, 2021:

1.17 (1) a county may allow a family to maintain their spot on the basic sliding fee waiting
1.18 list if the family does not currently have a need for child care; and

1.19 (2) notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 119B.03, subdivision 4, the funding
1.20 priority under the basic sliding fee program shall be as follows:

2.1 (i) first priority must be given to non-MFIP families who do not have a high school
2.2 diploma or commissioner of education-selected high school equivalency certification, or
2.3 who need remedial and basic skills courses in order to pursue employment or to pursue
2.4 education leading to employment and who need child care assistance to participate in the
2.5 education program. This includes student parents as defined under Minnesota Statutes,
2.6 section 119B.011, subdivision 19b. Within this priority, the following subpriorities must
2.7 be used:

2.8 (A) child care needs of minor parents;

2.9 (B) child care needs of parents under 21 years of age; and

2.10 (C) child care needs of other parents within the priority group described in this clause;

2.11 (ii) second priority must be given to families in which at least one parent is a veteran as
2.12 defined under Minnesota Statutes, section 197.447;

2.13 (iii) third priority must be given to all eligible families who do not belong to any other
2.14 priority groups listed in this clause;

2.15 (iv) fourth priority must be given to parents who have completed their MFIP or
2.16 diversionary work program transition year, or parents who are no longer receiving or eligible
2.17 for diversionary work program supports; and

2.18 (v) fifth priority must be given to families who are eligible for portable basic sliding fee
2.19 assistance through the portability pool under Minnesota Statutes, section 119B.03, subdivision
2.20 9.

2.21 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2021.