

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Article 1: MFIP Work Participation

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- 1 **Prohibited purchases.** Amends 256J.39 by adding a subdivision. Prohibits purchases of tobacco products, lottery tickets, and alcoholic beverages with the use of MFIP cash benefits issued in the form of an EBT.
- 2 **Eligibility.** Amends § 256J.425, subd. 1. Requires participants to develop and comply with either an employment plan or a family stabilization services plan in order to maintain eligibility for any of the hardship extension categories.
- 3 **Work activity.** Amends 256J.49, subd. 13. Modifies the activities that may be counted as work activities for the purposes of the MFIP program.
- 4 **Eligibility for services.** Amends § 256J.626, subd. 3. Prohibits counties or tribes from imposing residency requirements on families, except for the requirement currently in statute.
- 5 **Performance base funds.** Amends § 256J.626, subd. 7. Removes obsolete language. Replaces references to MFIP with references to TANF. Modifies the allocation of performance-based funds.

Article 2: Child Care

- 1 **Allocation formula.** Amends § 119B.03, subd. 6. Modifies the Basic Sliding Fee allocation formula to improve the distribution of funds to counties with unmet needs.
- 2 **Licensed and legal nonlicensed family child care providers; assistance.** Amends § 119B.09, subd. 9. Clarifies eligibility for the employees of family child care providers.
- 3 **Relationship to current law.** Amends § 119B.231, subd. 5. Specifies that effective upon

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the date of enactment, exempts participants of School Readiness Service Agreements from absent day limits.

- 4 Child Care Advisory Task Force.** Requires the Commissioner of Human Services to establish a Child Care Advisory Task Force to make recommendations to the legislature to remove barriers facing families applying for and receiving child care assistance under programs codified in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 119B. Requires the task force to include representatives of the Department of Human Services, counties and nonprofit organizations administering child care assistance programs, the child advocacy community, and the antipoverty community. Provides that task force members must not be paid a per diem or reimbursed for any expenses.

Requires the Department of Human Services to report to legislative committees by January 15, 2010 . Provides that the task force expires June 30, 2010 .

Makes this section effective upon enactment.

Article 3: Child Care Technical

- 1 MFIP.** Amends § 119B.011, subd. 17. Removes an obsolete statutory reference.
- 2 Notice of allocation.** Amends § 119B.03, subd. 1. Removes a requirement that the commissioner notify county and human services boards of their estimated child care fund program allocation at the time the commissioner notifies county and human services boards of the forms and instructions they are to follow in developing their child care fund plans.
- 3 General eligibility requirements for all applicants for child care assistance.** Amends § 119B.09, subd. 1. Converts eligibility from federal poverty guidelines to state median income. Removes an obsolete statutory reference.
- 4 Sliding fee scale.** Amends § 119B.12.

Subd. 1. Fee schedule. Adjusts the fee schedule due to the conversion of income guidelines from federal poverty guidelines to state median income.

Subd. 2. Parent fee. Makes a technical change. Makes this section effective July 1, 2008 .

- 5 Background study required.** Amends § 119B.125, by adding a subd. Requires counties to perform background studies on every member of a legal, nonlicensed family child care provider's household who is age 13 and older prior to authorization and as part of each reauthorization.
- 6 Persons who cannot be authorized.** Amends § 119B.125, subd. 2. Adds legal, nonlicensed family child care providers' household members to the list of persons on whom background studies are conducted to determine if a provider may be authorized to receive child care assistance payments.
- 7 Subsidy restrictions.** Amends § 119B.13, subd. 1. Specifies that all maximum provider rates changes must be implemented on the Monday following the effective date of the maximum provider rate.
- 8 Absent days.** Amends § 119B.13, subd. 7. Specifies that the provider and family must receive notification of the number of absent days used upon initial provider authorization.
- 9 Child care services grants.** Amends § 119B.21, subd. 5. Makes legal, nonlicensed and

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- family, friend, and neighbor care providers eligible for child care services grants.
- 10 Family child care technical assistance grants.** Amends § 119B.21, subd. 10. Makes legal, nonlicensed family child care providers and family, friends, and neighbor care providers eligible for technical assistance grants.
- 11 Authorization.** Amends § 256E.30, subd. 1. Replaces a reference to the commissioner of education with a reference to the commissioner of human services.
- 12 Program reporting.** Amends § 256E.35, subd. 7. Removes a reference to the commissioner of education.
- 13 Revisor's instruction.** Instructs the revisor to renumber statutes related to early childhood learning and child protection facilities. Directs the revisor to make necessary cross-reference changes due to the renumbering of the early childhood and child protection facilities statute.

Article 4: MFIP Technical Changes

- 1 Other property limitations.** Amends § 256J.20, subd. 3. Clarifies who is to determine the loan value of a licensed vehicle.
- 2 MFIP transitional standard.** Amends § 256J.24, subd. 5. Updates the MFIP transitional standard with the federal fiscal year 2008 food support allotments.
- 3 Work activity.** Amends § 256J.49, subd. 13. Removes an obsolete reference.
- 4 Self-employment.** Amends § 256J.521, subd. 4. Removes an obsolete reference.
- 5 Responsibility for assessment and employment plan.** Amends § 256J.54, subd. 2. Removes an obsolete statutory reference.
- 6 School attendance required.** Amends § 256J.54, subd. 5. Removes an obsolete statutory reference.
- 7 Family violence waiver criteria.** Amends § 256J.545. Corrects language regarding what needs to be provided to support a claim of family violence.
- 8 Eligibility for diversionary work program.** Amends § 256J.95, subd. 3. Corrects a reference to the Code of Federal Regulations.

Article 5: Miscellaneous Technical

- 1 Background studies conducted by a county agency.** Amends § 245C.08, subd. 2. Corrects a statutory reference.
- 2 Definitions.** Amends § 256E.35, subd. 2. Defines “eligible educational institution” for the purposes of the Minnesota Family Assets for Independence program.
- 1 Repealer.** Repeals § 256K.25, supportive housing and managed care pilot project.