

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Subject: Child Care Provider Rates, Quality Rating and Improvement System
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Overview

This bill adds certain providers to the list of providers who may receive a rate differential, requires certain grants to be increasingly awarded for activities that improve provider quality, creates a quality rating and improvement system, and appropriates money.

Section

- 1 Quality improvement.** Amends § 119B.04, by adding subd. 3. Requires the commissioner to allocate an additional \$250,000 per year above the amount allocated in fiscal year 2009 in federal child care and development funds (CCDF) for Parent Aware star rating tool activities beginning on July 1, 2009.
- 2 Provider rate differential for accreditation.** Amends § 119B.13, subd. 3a. Adds providers who have received a three or four star rating on the Parent Aware star rating tool to the list of providers eligible for a rate differential.
- 3 Child care services grants.** Amends § 119B.21, subd. 5. Requires child care services grants to be increasingly awarded for activities that improve provider quality beginning July 1, 2009.
- 4 Family child care technical assistance grants.** Amends § 119B.21, subd. 10. Requires family child care technical assistance grants to be increasingly awarded for activities that improve provider quality beginning July 1, 2009.
- 5 Quality rating and improvement system.** Creates § 124D.142. Establishes a standards-based quality rating and improvement system for early learning and care programs. Requires the state to consider the cost of administering and staffing the system and collecting evaluation and assessment data when establishing the system. Requires the state to use the Parent Aware quality rating tool prior to the creation of the statewide quality rating and improvement system. Makes this section effective July 1, 2009.

6 **Quality rating and improvement system; collaboration.** Creates § 124D.143. Requires the commissioners of education and human services to work together to create common standards for the quality rating and improvement system under section 124D.142.

7 **Appropriations.**

Subd. 1. Child care services grants. Appropriates an unspecified amount from the general fund to the commissioner of human services for the 2010-2011 biennium for child care services grants. Specifies that this appropriation must be used to provide quality improvement grants to providers who are rated one or two stars on the Parent Aware star rating tool at the time of application for the grant. Adds this appropriation to the base. Appropriates another unspecified amount from the general fund to the commissioner of human services for the 2010-2011 biennium for child care services grants to provide quality improvement grants. Adds this appropriation to the base.

Subd. 2. Parent Aware star rating tool. Appropriates an unspecified amount from the general fund to the commissioner of human services for the 2010-2011 biennium for the Parent Aware star rating tool. Requires this appropriation to be used for administration of the rating tool and for on-site observations. Adds this appropriation to the base.

Subd. 3. Child care development grants. Appropriates an unspecified amount from the general fund to the commissioner of human services for the 2010-2011 biennium for child care development grants. Adds this appropriation to the base.