

# H.F. 423

## First division engrossment

Subject Greater Minnesota Child Care Facility Capital Grant Program

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#### **Overview**

Creates the Greater Minnesota Child Care Facility Capital Grant Program.

## **Summary**

## Section Description

1 [119B.255] Greater Minnesota Child Care Facility Capital Grant Program.

**Subd. 1. Creation of account.** Creates the greater Minnesota child care facility capital grant account, the contents of which are appropriated to the commissioner of employment and economic development to make grants under this program.

**Subd. 2. Purpose; authority.** Establishes the purpose of the program as supporting economic development by providing child care to workers outside of the seven-county metropolitan area.

**Subd. 3. Definitions.** Defines "eligible applicant" as a child care provider that: uses the grant to increase capacity; meets all state requirements for child care providers; and agrees to be Parent Aware certified. Defines various other terms.

**Subd. 4. Grants.** Specifies that grants under this program may be used for up to 50 percent of the cost of a capital improvement to a child care facility. The commissioner may either provide these grants directly or through regional organizations. Requires the commissioner to provide both the applicant and the legislature with a written explanation if any project is awarded less than 50 percent of its cost.

**Subd. 5. Application; criteria.** Stipulates that the commissioner shall determine the application process for grants, but that it must include evidence about the need for the project and the expected economic benefits to the area from the project, among other information.

**Subd. 6. Maximum grant amount.** Limits grants to a maximum of \$500,000 per project and \$2,000,000 in two years to a single applicant for projects in the same geographic area.

## Section Description

**Subd. 7. Cancellation of grant; return of money.** Allows the commissioner to cancel grants that have not proceeded within five years and to use that money for another project.

**Effective date:** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

## 2 Greater Minnesota child care facility grants.

Transfers \$10,000,000 in fiscal year 2020 from the general fund to the new account created in section1, subd. 1 for the purposes of this new program.

**Effective date:** This section is effective the day following final enactment.



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