

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 1329

DATE: April 1, 2005

Version: As introduced

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Subject: Modifying Child Care Assistance Provisions

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Overview

This bill modifies the child care assistance programs by modifying income eligibility, establishing a provider rate differential for accreditation, temporarily suspending licensing fees, and reducing parent co-payments.

Section

- 1** **General eligibility requirements for all applicants for child care assistance.** Amends § 119B.09, subd. 1. Modifies child care assistance income eligibility by removing the entrance level of 175 percent of the federal poverty guidelines. Makes this section effective July 1, 2005.
- 2** **Provider rate differential for accreditation.** Amends § 119B.13, by adding subd. 3a. Establishes a 15 percent differential above the maximum provider reimbursement rate, up to the actual provider rate, for family child care providers, centers, and Montessori programs that meet certain accreditation or educational requirements. Makes this section effective July 1, 2005.
- 3** **Temporary suspension of child care license fees.** Amends § 245A.10, by adding subd. 7. Suspends county fees for child care provider background studies, licensing inspections, and licensing fees. Requires the commissioner to use unallocated federal child care development fund money from the 2004-2005 biennium to reimburse the state and counties for the reduced child care licensure fee revenue due to the temporary suspension. Requires the commissioner to set a standard statewide license and background study fee based on the average fees currently being charged. Makes this section effective July 1, 2005.
- 4** **Parent fee schedule.** Establishes a new child care assistance parent fee schedule. This

Section

parent fee schedule is comparable to the parent fee schedule in effect prior to July 1, 2003, when the parent fees were increased. Makes this section effective July 1, 2005.

5 Repealer. Repeals the current child care assistance parent fee schedule.