

BLWG # & Title	Bill Section	Stat. Sec. Amended	Section Description
Article 1 – Child Care			
CF01 – CCAP Provider Policy and Technical Changes	Article 1, Section 1	119B.16, subd. 1a	<p>Changes references to Department of Human Services Appeals Division to “state agency.” Changes “mails” to “sends.” This will allow providers to use the provider hub in place of having paper documents mailed. Current language would require the state agency to also mail any documents the provider opts into receiving through the provider hub. Providers who prefer to receive physical paper copies may continue to do so.</p> <p>This would change language in 119B.16 subdivision 1c which mandates that some notices be mailed to providers. Beginning in 2023, providers can select whether they want to receive notices through the online provider licensing and reporting hub or mail. Without a statute language change, providers who select to receive notices online will unnecessarily receive some notices via mail. This change could impact all of the approximately 3,660 providers who are registered with CCAP.</p>
CF01 – CCAP Provider Policy and Technical Changes	Article 1, Section 2	119B.16, subd. 1c	<p>Changes “mails” to “sends.” This will allow providers to use the provider hub in place of having paper documents mailed. Current language would require the state agency to also mail any documents the provider opts into receiving through the provider hub. Providers who prefer to receive physical paper copies may continue to do so.</p> <p>Additionally, this change would clarify and define specific child care provider appeal notification requirements when a provider disagrees with a payment amount.</p> <p>Current law gives providers appeal rights if they disagree with a payment amount, but it does not address how an agency notifies a provider of their appeal rights related to payment amounts. Statute does address how to notify a provider of their appeal rights for adverse actions, such as registration closures and overpayments.</p>
CF01 – CCAP Provider Policy and Technical Changes	Article 1, Section 3	119B.161, subd. 2	<p>Changes “mails” to “sends.” This will allow providers to use the provider hub in place of having paper documents mailed. Current language would require the state agency to also mail any documents the provider opts into receiving through the provider hub. Providers who prefer to receive physical paper copies may continue to do so.</p>
CF03 – Parent Aware One Star Rating Effective Date	Article 1, Section 4	124D.142, subd. 2	<p>This proposal adds a July 1, 2026, effective date to the Parent Aware One Star section in statute 124D.142, subd. 2, to provide clarity about the effective date, and prevent confusion among licensed child care providers.</p>

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CF01 – CCAP Provider Policy and Technical Changes	Article 1, Section 5	256.046, subd. 3	Changes “mails” to “sends.” This will allow providers to use the provider hub in place of having paper documents mailed. Current language would require the state agency to also mail any documents the provider opts into receiving through the provider hub. Providers who prefer to receive physical paper copies may continue to do so.
Article 2 – Child Welfare			
CF04 – FFPSA Exceptions to Moratorium	Article 2, Section 1	245A.03, subd. 7	Removes child foster residence settings with FFPSA certifications from the current licensing moratorium. Requires license revocation for these settings should their FFPSA certification be rescinded.
CF11 – CSP Technical, Housekeeping and Policy	Article 2, Section 2	256N.22, subd. 10	Clarifies process for continued Northstar Kinship Assistance benefits to be paid when a successor relative custodian is unable or unwilling to accept custody/guardianship. (Technical)
CF11 – CSP Technical, Housekeeping and Policy	Article 2, Section 3	256N.24, subd. 10	Removes reference to benefit agreement expiration dates, as they do not expire. (Technical)
CF11 – CSP Technical, Housekeeping and Policy	Article 2, Section 4	256N.26, subd. 15	Clarifies extended foster care payments may be paid to a youth or to a vendor (especially if at risk of financial exploitation) when youth reside in unlicensed supervised independent living settings.
CF11 – CSP Technical, Housekeeping and Policy	Article 2, Section 5	256N.26, subd. 16	Adds youth to payment procedures (for extended foster care – supervised independent living setting).
CF11 – CSP Technical, Housekeeping and Policy	Article 2, Section 6	256N.26, subd. 18	Adds youth to payment procedures (for extended foster care – supervised independent living setting).

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CF11 – CSP Technical, Housekeeping and Policy	Article 2, Section 7	256N.26, subd. 21	Adds youth to payment procedures (for extended foster care – supervised independent living setting).
CF11 – CSP Technical, Housekeeping and Policy	Article 2, Section 8	256N.26, subd. 22	Adds youth to payment procedures (for extended foster care – supervised independent living setting).
CF11 – CSP Technical, Housekeeping and Policy	Article 2, Section 9	260C.178, subd. 7	Clarifies protective supervision case plan requirements and court review requirements.
CF11 – CSP Technical, Housekeeping and Policy	Article 2, Section 10	260C.201, subd. 1	Removes court’s ability to order a youth aged 16 or 17 to live independently (become emancipated) as a CHIPS or neglected/in foster care disposition.
CF11 – CSP Technical, Housekeeping and Policy	Article 2, Section 11	260C.202	Clarifies protective supervision court review requirements.
CF11 – CSP Technical, Housekeeping and Policy	Article 2, Section 12	260C.209, subd. 1	Clarifies agency access to criminal and maltreatment history for relatives being considered for foster care placement (regardless of whether they must be licensed) and when petitions are filed to transfer permanent legal and physical custody (TPLPC) to a relative who is not pursuing Northstar Kinship Assistance (regardless of whether there is reasonable cause to believe there may be criminal history).
CF11 – CSP Technical, Housekeeping and Policy	Article 2, Section 13	260C.212, subd. 2	Clarifies that adoptive placement home study and background study requirements are located in section 260C.611. (Technical) Prohibits placement of children in an unlicensed emergency relative placement/licensed family foster home when the agency knows there is a permanent disqualification to child foster care licensure.
CF11 – CSP Technical,	Article 2, Section 14	260C.301, subd. 1	Removes a termination of parental rights condition related to a parent’s failure to financially support their child.

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Housekeeping and Policy			
CF11 – CSP Technical, Housekeeping and Policy	Article 2, Section 15	260C.515, subd. 4	<p>Clearly establishes the permanency disposition of TPLPC to a parent as distinct from TPLPC to a relative.</p> <p>Establishes court review of background study summary information and clarifies permanence of TPLPC, when reviewing and granting petitions for TPLPC to relatives. Clarifies that finalization may occur only after reviewing suitability of the proposed custodian, which includes a review of background study summary.</p> <p>Clarifies agency vs. non-agency TPLPC petition content and filing requirements, including background study summary information, and reorganizes existing statutory requirements for clarity. For non-agency TPLPC petitions, allows background study summary information to be submitted prior to the court granting the petition or finalizing the order if not completed at the time of filing the petition.</p> <p>Cleans up existing statute regarding court jurisdiction following a TPLPC.</p>
CF11 – CSP Technical, Housekeeping and Policy	Article 2, Section 16	260C.607, subd. 1	Clarifies that court reviews and agency efforts to finalize an adoption must continue, but the adoption must not finalize when an appeal is pending not just of the guardianship order, but also for termination of parental rights. (Technical)
CF11 – CSP Technical, Housekeeping and Policy	Article 2, Section 17	260C.607, subd. 6	Prohibits courts from finalizing an adoption while there is a pending appeal related to a motion for adoptive placement.
CF11 – CSP Technical, Housekeeping and Policy	Article 2, Section 18	260C.611	Authorizes the commissioner to allow use of an existing child foster care home study associated with a current license, even if the commissioner issued a sanction or order of conditional license within the last three years, provided the commissioner has determined it to be in the child’s best interests upon review of the agency’s placement decision.
CF11 – CSP Technical, Housekeeping and Policy	Article 2, Section 19	260C.613, subd. 1	<p>Clarifies that agencies have exclusive authority to make an adoptive placement <u>decision</u>, as a child is considered legally placed for adoption upon all parties executing an adoption placement agreement. (Technical)</p> <p>Requires agencies to immediately notify the commissioner if an agency learns about new or previously undisclosed criminal or maltreatment information after making an adoptive placement but before finalizing the adoption. (Align with practice/policy)</p> <p>Clarifies that an agency must notify those required to receive notice when <u>a party to the agreement</u> terminates the agreement. (Technical)</p>

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CF11 – CSP Technical, Housekeeping and Policy	Article 2, Section 20	260C.615, subd. 1	Adds to commissioner’s duties the duty to review new or previously undisclosed criminal or maltreatment information provided by the agency or others that may impact a child’s health, safety, or well-being.
CF11 – CSP Technical, Housekeeping and Policy	Article 2, Section 21	260E.03, subd. 23	Clarifies threatened injury for purposes of birth match data due to changes in section 15 of this bill.
Article 3 – Economic Assistance			
CF13 – MFIP Technical Updates	Article 3, Section 1	119B.011, subd. 15	Adds a Minnesota Rule reference to 119B.011, subd. 15, regarding how rental income is counted for the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP).
CF13 – MFIP Technical Updates	Article 3, Section 2	256J.08, subd. 34a	Modifies the definition of “family violence” under the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) by striking the word “imminent.”
CF15 – SNAP Federal Compliance	Article 3, Section 3	256J.28, subd. 1	Strikes outdated and incomplete language regarding expedited issuance of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits from Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) statute.
CF13 – MFIP Technical Updates	Article 3, Section 4	256P.05, adds subd. 4	Clarifies that rental income for the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) is treated as self-employment earned income under Chapter 256P, the public assistance program uniformity chapter.
CF13 – MFIP Technical Updates	Article 3, Section 5	256P.06, subd. 3	Removes rental income from the definition of unearned income under Chapter 256P to clarify that rental income for the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) is treated as self-employment earned income.
CF15 – SNAP Federal Compliance	Article 3, Section 6	393.07, Subd. 10a	Strikes outdated and incomplete language regarding expedited issuance of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits from a commissioner’s powers and duties section of statute.

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Article 4 – Adoption Records			
CF06 – Adoption Records	Article 4, Section 1	144.2252 subd. 2	Allows MDH to continue coordinating with DHS to verify information contained in DHS adoption records as needed to release original birth record effective July 1, 2024.
CF06 – Adoption Records	Article 4, Section 2	144.2253	Allows MDH to continue coordinating with DHS to verify information contained in DHS adoption records as needed to match the contact preference form to the original birth record effective August 1, 2023.
CF06 – Adoption Records	Article 4, Section 3	259.37, subd. 2	Requires an agency’s disclosure statement to include a statement regarding the right of an adopted person to request and receive their original birth record and the right of a birth parent named on the original birth record to file a contact preference form with the state registrar effective July 1, 2024.
CF06 – Adoption Records	Article 4, Section 4	259.79, subd. 1	Authorizes DHS to share certain information from adoption records upon MDH request for purposes of fulfilling MDH requirements under sections 144.2252-144.2253.
CF06 – Adoption Records	Article 4, Section 5	259.83, subd. 1	Removes confidentiality provisions around post-adoption services as this will not apply effective July 1, 2024. Reinstates 6-month timeframe for agencies to complete their post-adoption service requests as this was inadvertently removed with the repeal of section 259.89 during the 2023 session. Clarifies timing of birth parent notification of their right to file a contact preference form.
CF06 – Adoption Records	Article 4, Section 6	259.83, subd. 1b	Removes requirement that siblings must be genetically related, consistent with current definition of sibling in statute and department policy, for an adult to obtain information about their siblings who were adopted or under guardianship of the commissioner. Removes confidentiality provisions around sibling contact, consistent with existing policy and legal requirements going into effect July 1, 2024. Expands availability of information to be inclusive of agency adoption records, consistent with record retention requirements under section 259.79.
CF06 – Adoption Records	Article 4, Section 7	259.83, subd. 3a	Clarifies that birth parent identifying information is to be provided to the extent that the information is available, for adoptive placements in Minnesota in which the adopted person was not born in Minnesota.
CF06 – Adoption Records	Article 4, Section 8	259.83, subd. 4	Aligns the age at which an adopted person is able to receive assistance from agencies with the age indicated elsewhere in this section, which is age 18.

[H.F. 4459](#) / [S.F. 4572](#) – Children and Family Services Policy Bill

This bill is from the Department of Human Services, Children and Family Services Administration. It contains policy, technical, and housekeeping updates to statutes related to child care, child welfare, economic assistance programs, and adoption records. The provisions in this bill are policy-only with no fiscal impacts.

Article 1 – Child Care

Child Care Assistance Program Provider Policy and Technical Changes – Notices (Sections 1-3, 5)

Beginning in 2024, child care providers can select whether they want to receive notices through the online provider licensing and reporting hub or mail. Currently, section [119B.16, subd. 1c](#) mandates that some notices be mailed to providers. Without a statute change, providers who select to receive notices online will unnecessarily receive some notices via mail in addition to online. Language in sections 1-3 and 5 changes statute to allow providers to elect whether they want to receive notices electronically, via mail, or both. This change could impact the approximately 3,660 providers registered with the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP).

Current law gives providers appeal rights if they disagree with a payment amount, but it does not address how an agency notifies a provider of their appeal rights related to payment amounts. Additionally, statute does not address how to notify a provider of their appeal rights for adverse actions, such as registration closures and overpayments. Language in section 2 clarifies and defines specific child care provider appeal notification requirements when a provider disagrees with a payment amount.

Correction of Statute Expanding One-Star Parent Aware Ratings to All Licensed Providers (Section 4)

During the 2023 legislative session section [124D.142, subd. 2](#) was amended automatically granting all licensed child care providers with a One-Star Parent Aware rating. The 2023 legislation failed to include an effective date, meaning that the default July 1, 2023 effective date applied. That effective date is not achievable due to the need for systems changes and policy updates. Section 4 amends [124D.142, subd. 2](#) to add July 1, 2026 as the date when the automatic One-Star rating and opt-out option will become available. The automatic Parent Aware rating was added to expand the number of child care programs eligible to receive Early Learning Scholarships given additional investments in that program.

Article 2 – Child Welfare

Exception to the Moratorium on Licensing of Child Foster Care Residence Settings (Section 1)

Minnesota Statutes section [245A.03, subd. 7](#) establishes a moratorium on new child and adult foster care licenses for settings where the license holder does not live in the home. Foster residence settings are shift staffed homes licensed for up to 6 children. The moratorium is a process to manage waived service programs serving individuals with a disability, but inadvertently risks state compliance with federal Family First Prevention Services Act, or FFPSA, requirements that children in residential placements be in one of four specialized placement settings to support the complex needs of children and youth in foster care or receiving child welfare services who have behavioral and/or mental health care needs, who have been or are at risk of being sexually exploited/trafficked, who are pregnant and parenting, or who are preparing for independent living. While

exceptions to the moratorium exist in statute, they do not apply to child welfare. Accordingly, foster residence settings are currently eligible to become FFPSA-certified to provide those specialized services but because of the moratorium, new programs cannot become licensed to serve these populations. This section amends [245A.03, subd. 7](#) to allow foster residence settings to be included in the exceptions from the moratorium for facilities seeking certification as an FFPSA specialized setting.

Child Welfare Technical, Housekeeping and Policy Updates (Sections 2-21)

Sections 2 through 21 make technical fixes and align existing practice with requirements in child protection statutes that support child safety and well-being in out-of-home placement and permanency.

Changes include:

- Removing an incorrect reference to adoption/kinship assistance benefit agreement expiration dates (there are no expiration dates for benefit agreements).
- Clarifying extended foster care payment procedures for youth in supervised independent living settings, including vendor payment options for youth at risk of financial exploitation.
- Aligning statute with existing department policy allowing kinship assistance benefits to be transferred to court-appointed guardians when a named successor is not available or is not willing to become the permanent guardian upon a relative custodian's death or incapacity.
- Addressing background study requirements and commissioner authority in making foster care, kinship, and adoptive placements to support child safety and well-being.
- Clarifying that children in foster care cannot be placed in a family foster home when there is a known permanent disqualification to child foster care licensing.
- Clarifying that any party to an existing Adoption Placement Agreement can terminate it, including the commissioner, who may rescind an Adoption Placement Agreement when warranted. For example, if it is determined that a case did not comply with the Indian Child Welfare Act or the Minnesota Indian Family Preservation Act (see [sections 260.751 to 260.835](#)) during a case.
- Amending various sections of [Chapter 260C](#) to clarify protective supervision case plan and court review requirements.
- Clarifying and separating petition requirements and court processes for transfers of permanent legal and physical custody to a relative and to a parent.
- Removing the termination of parental rights condition that is based solely on a parent's failure to financially support their child.

This article also amends two sections of [Chapter 260C](#) to further support relative adoptions when children cannot be reunified with their parents:

- First, it allows the use of a child foster care home study associated with an active child foster care license to meet adoption home study requirements, even if the commissioner issued a sanction or conditional license order within the last 3 years, if the commissioner determines it to be in the child's best interests upon review of the agency's adoptive placement decision.
- Second, it prohibits adoptions of children in foster care from finalizing when there is an active appeal involving a contested adoptive placement under section [260C.607, subd. 6](#).

Article 3 – Economic Assistance

Minnesota Family Investment Program Correction to Rental Income Definition (Sections 1, 4-5)

Current law contains contradictions regarding the treatment of rental income as earned or unearned income. Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) statute ([256J.37, subd. 8](#)) specifies that rental income is subject to the requirements of section [256P.05](#), or self-employment income. Minnesota Statutes, section [256P.01, subdivisions 3 and 7](#) further establish that “net profit from self-employment activities” should be considered earned income. However, a separate section of statute governing MFIP ([256P.06, subd. 3\(2\)\(iii\)](#)) defines rental income as unearned income. Current policy treats rental income as self-employment earned income. Sections 4 and 5 clarify the MFIP policy of treating rental income as self-employment earned income and eliminate rental income from the list of unearned income under 256P.06, subd. 3(2)(iii), to resolve the contradiction. Section 1 also adds a cross-reference for the Minnesota Rule governing self-employment earnings to Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) statute ([119B.011, subd. 15](#)) to clarify how rental income is counted for CCAP.

Minnesota Family Investment Program Update to Family Violence Waiver Definition (Section 2)

Section 2 makes a technical update to the definition of “family violence” in the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) statute (section [256J.08, subd. 34a\(a\)\(2\)](#)). The Family Violence Waiver ensures that MFIP participants experiencing family violence receive employment plans and services that make their safety a priority. The current definition of “family violence” includes “the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, bodily injury, or assault” committed against or by a family or household member. The current definition creates confusion and requires interpretation by frontline workers. This technical change to the definition of “family violence” deletes the word “imminent” from statute, which aligns with current guidance to allow a Family Violence Waiver without trying to determine whether the physical harm, bodily injury, or assault is “imminent.”

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Federal Compliance (Sections 3, 6)

Sections 3 and 6 make technical statutory updates to ensure there is no conflict between state statute and federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) regulations regarding the expedited service of SNAP benefits. Under federal regulations ([7 CFR 273.2\(i\)](#)), for households eligible for expedited service, SNAP benefits must be posted to a household's Electronic Benefit Transfer card no later than the seventh calendar day following the date an application was filed. State statute ([256J.28, subd. 1](#) and [393.07, subd. 10a](#)) does not describe countable income and allowable expenses at the level of detail required to make expedited SNAP determinations. Sections 3 and 6 strike outdated and incomplete language from state statute to ensure that state statute is no longer out of date or out of compliance with federal SNAP requirements.

Article 4 – Adoption Records

Adoption Records – Conforming Changes (Sections 1-8)

With the recent law changes related to data privacy classification of, and access to, an adopted person's original birth records, there may be contradictory data classifications and access between adoption records and original birth records once the law changes go into effect on July 1, 2024. The provisions in this article align adoption-related records laws to ensure consistency and clarity around data privacy, access, and content, while taking into consideration the perspectives of those involved in adoption. The provisions also clarify the continued coordination between the Minnesota Department of Health and the Minnesota Department of Human Services to fully execute [144.2252 subd. 2](#), [144.2253](#) and [259.79 subd. 1](#). These provisions were reviewed by advocates who supported the 2023 law changes, as well as the Minnesota Department of Health, and no concerns were raised.