

to high-risk populations, including homeless families and families living in homeless shelters and transitional housing, from meeting certain enrollment procedures.

- 3 **Program data submission requirements.** Amends § 124D.13, subd. 13. Removes a requirement that ECFE programs submit a biennial plan to the Department of Education. Removes a requirement that ECFE programs submit annual program data to the Department of Education before it may certify a levy.
- 4 **Early childhood family education levy.** Amends § 124D.135, subd. 3. Removes a requirement that districts meet annual program data and reporting requirements before certifying an ECFE levy.
- 5 **Quality rating and improvement system.** Creates § 124D.142. Establishes a voluntary, 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 voluntary statewide quality rating and improvement system. Makes this section effective July 1, 2009.
- 6 **Early learning system.** Creates § 124D.145. Defines the early learning system as a coherent structure of research-based curriculum content, instructional practice, program and child assessment, performance-based child and programmatic standards, professional development, engagement and outreach, accountability, financing, and governance efforts that contribute to all aspects of children’s development and prepare children for kindergarten. Specifies that the system is delivered through a variety of public and private child care, preschool, Head Start, and school-based programs and services.
- 7 **Establishment; purpose.** Amends § 124D.15, subd. 1. Adds language specifying that the school readiness program is targeted toward children most at-risk for being unprepared for kindergarten.
- 8 **Program requirements.** Amends § 124D.15, subd. 3. Modifies school readiness program requirements by modifying requirements related to assessments and comprehensive program content and adding requirements related to coordinating appropriate kindergarten transition with parents and kindergarten teachers and ensuring specified staff-child ratios.
- 9 **Appropriations.** Appropriates money in fiscal years 2010 and 2011 for ECFE, school readiness, health and developmental screening, Head Start, educate parents partnership, and the kindergarten entrance assessment. See spreadsheet for details.
- 10 **Revisor’s instruction.** Instructs the revisor to substitute the term “the director” for “commissioner” and “commissioner of education” in specified statutes. Instructs the revisor to substitute the term “the director” for “commissioner” and “commissioner of human services” in specified statutes.

Article 2: Prevention

Overview

This article contains appropriations for prevention programs including community education aid, adults with disabilities programs, hearing impaired adults services, and school-age care revenue.

- 1 **Youth service programs.** Amends § 124D.19, subd. 10. Removes a requirement that the commissioner maintain a list of acceptable projects with a description of each project. Removes a requirement that projects not on the list be approved by the commissioner.
- 2 **Community education; annual report.** Amends § 124D.19, subd. 14. Modifies the information districts must include in their annual community education program reports by removing requirements to include information regarding the cost per participant and cost per contact hour. Removes a requirement that the Department of Education include this same information in their annual community education report.
- 3 **Appropriations.** Appropriates money in fiscal years 2010 and 2011 for community education aid, adults with disabilities program aid, hearing impaired adults, and school-age care revenue. See spreadsheet for details.

Article 3: Self-Sufficiency and Lifelong Learning

Overview

This article contains appropriations for self-sufficiency and lifelong learning programs including adult basic education and GED tests.

- 1 **Adult basic education supplemental service grants.** Amends § 124D.522. Modifies the maximum grant amount a single organization can receive.
- 2 **Appropriations.** Appropriates money in fiscal years 2010 and 2011 for adult basic education programs and GED tests. See spreadsheet for details.

Article 4: Child Care Assistance

Overview

This article contains appropriations for the child care assistance and child care development programs administered by the Department of Human Services.

- 1 **Human Services Appropriations.** Defines specific terms used in this article related to the appropriations.
- 2 **Human Services.** Appropriates money in fiscal years 2010 and 2011 for the child care assistance and child care development programs administered by the Department of Human

Services. See spreadsheet for details.

- 3 **Date of eligibility for assistance.** Amends § 119B.09, subd. 7. Limits retroactive payment of MFIP child care assistance to a maximum of six months from the date of application.
- 4 **Subsidy restrictions.** Amends § 119B.13, subd. 1. Beginning July 1, 2009, increases maximum provider rates by 2 percent. Makes technical changes. Removes obsolete language.
- 5 **Provider rate differential for quality.** 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.
- 6 **Provider payments.** Amends § 119B.13, subd. 6. Specifies that bills must be submitted within 60 days of the last date of service on the bill if a provider has received an authorization of care and been issued a billing form for an eligible family. Specifies that payment of child care assistance may only be made retroactively for a maximum of six months from the date the provider is issued an authorization of care and billing form. Makes technical changes. Makes this section effective October 1, 2009.
- 7 **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.
- 8 **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.
- 9 **Provider eligibility.** Amends § 119B.231, subd. 2. Allows additional providers to participate in the school readiness service agreement (SRSA) program if sufficient funds are available. Gives priority for funds to providers who had agreements prior to June 30, 2009. Modifies the list of requirements providers must meet in order to be eligible to participate. Modifies the list of factors the commissioner must evaluate when determining whether or not to enter into an agreement with a provider.
- 10 **Family and child eligibility.** Amends § 119B.231, subd. 3. Requires families choosing a provider with an SRSA to maintain eligibility for child care assistance and be in an authorized activity.
- 11 **Requirements of providers.** Amends § 119B.231, subd. 4. Requires providers who enter into an SRSA to comply with all SRSA requirements. Requires providers who have been previously selected for an SRSA to begin the process of obtaining a rating using the Parent Aware quality rating system according to the timelines established by the commissioner. Specifies provider and commissioner duties if a provider does not obtain a rating of at least three stars. Requires providers who are selected for a new SRSA on or after July 1, 2009, to have at least a three star rating under the Parent Aware quality rating system at the time their agreement is signed.