

Subject Governor's human services policy and finance bill for early childhood

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Overview

H.F. 4569 includes the early childhood provisions of the governor's supplemental human services policy and finance bill.

Article 1: Child Care

The article makes several changes to the child care assistance program, including expanding the definition of family, forecasting the basic sliding fee (BSF) program, and increasing the rates paid to child care providers. The article also adds to statute a shared services grant program for family child care providers and establishes a grant program to assist child care providers with technology needs.

Section Description - Article 1: Child Care

- 1 Applicant.**

Amends § 119B.011, subd. 2. Changes the definition of "child care fund applicants" to include foster care families, relative custodians, and successor custodians or guardians receiving Northstar kinship assistance.

Makes the section effective August 7, 2023.
- 2 Child care.**

Amends § 119B.011, subd. 5. Changes the definition of "child care" to include care provided by foster care families, relative custodians, and successor custodians or guardians receiving Northstar kinship assistance.

Makes the section effective August 7, 2023.
- 3 Family.**

Amends § 119B.011, subd. 13. Changes the definition of "family" to include care provided by foster care families, relative custodians, and successor custodians or guardians receiving Northstar kinship assistance.

Section Description - Article 1: Child Care

- Makes the section effective August 7, 2023.
- 4 Student parent.**
Amends § 119B.011, subd. 19b. Changes the definition of “student parent” to mean a person who is not an MFIP participant.
Makes the section effective July 10, 2023.
- 5 Child care services.**
Amends § 119B.02, subd. 1. Makes technical changes related to forecasting the BSF child care program.
Makes the section effective July 10, 2023.
- 6 Contractual agreements with Tribes.**
Amends § 119B.02, subd. 2. Makes technical changes related to forecasting the BSF child care program.
Makes the section effective July 10, 2023.
- 7 Eligible participants.**
Amends § 119B.03, subd. 3. Makes technical changes related to forecasting the BSF child care program.
Makes the section effective July 10, 2023.
- 8 Family move; continued participation.**
Amends § 119B.03, subd. 9. Modifies the current law portability pool to allow a family receiving child care assistance that has moved to a new county to receive child care assistance in the new county.
Makes the section effective July 10, 2023.
- 9 Application; entry points.**
Amends § 119B.03, subd. 10. Makes technical changes related to forecasting the BSF child care program.
Makes the section effective July 10, 2023.
- 10 Establishment.**
Amends § 119B.035, subd. 1. Makes technical changes related to forecasting the BSF child care program.

Section Description - Article 1: Child Care

- Makes the section effective July 10, 2023.
- 11 Eligible families.**
Amends § 119B.035, subd. 2. Makes technical changes related to forecasting the BSF child care program.
Makes the section effective July 10, 2023.
- 12 Assistance.**
Amends § 119B.035, subd. 2. Makes technical changes related to forecasting the BSF child care program.
Makes the section effective July 10, 2023.
- 13 Implementation.**
Amends § 119B.035, subd. 5. Makes technical changes related to forecasting the BSF child care program.
Makes the section effective July 10, 2023.
- 14 Child care fund plan.**
Amends § 119B.08, subd. 3. Directs the commissioner to withhold child care assistance payments to a county until the county has an approved plan in place.
Makes the section effective July 10, 2023.
- 15 County contributions required.**
Amends § 119B.11, subd. 1. Makes technical changes related to forecasting the BSF child care program.
Makes the section effective July 10, 2023.
- 16 Subsidy restrictions.**
Amends § 119B.13, subd. 1. Increases the maximum rate paid to child care providers for child care assistance to the 75th percentile of the most recent child care provider rate survey beginning October 3, 2022.
- 17 Administrative expenses.**
Amends § 119B.15. Makes technical changes related to forecasting the BSF child care program.
Makes the section effective July 10, 2023.

Section Description - Article 1: Child Care

- 18 **Child care resource and referral programs.**
Amends § 119B.19, subd. 7. Requires child care resource and referral programs to: (1) administer the child care one-stop regional assistance network to provide assistance to child care providers and individuals interested in becoming providers; and (2) provide supports that enable economically challenged individuals to obtain the skills training, career counseling, and job placement assistance necessary to begin a career in child care.
- 19 **Duties of commissioner.**
Amends § 119B.24. Makes technical changes related to forecasting the BSF child care program.

Makes the section effective July 10, 2023.
- 20 **Shared services grants.**
Establishes § 119B.27. Directs the commissioner to establish a grant program to enable family child care providers to implement shared services alliances.

Makes the section effective July 1, 2023.
- 21 **Child care provider access to technology grants.**
Establishes § 119B.28. Directs the commissioner to provide grants to one or more organizations to offer grants or other supports to child care providers to improve their access to computers, the internet, and other technologies. Up to ten percent of the grant funds may be used for administration.
- 22 **Timing and disposition of penalty and case disallowance funds.**
Amends § 256.017, subd. 9. Makes technical changes related to forecasting the BSF child care program.
- 23 **Direction to commissioner; allocating basic sliding fee funds.**
Requires the commissioner to allocate additional money for the BSF program for calendar year 2024 to counties and Tribes to account for the change in the definition of family. Directs the commissioner to consider the number of children in a county or Tribe who receive care from foster care families, relative custodians, and successor custodians or guardians and the average cost of BSF care in the county or Tribe when allocating the additional money.

Section Description - Article 1: Child Care

- 24 Direction to commissioner of management and budget.**
Provides that the state obligation for child care assistance, including the BSF program, must be included in the forecast of state revenues and expenditures, beginning with the February 2023 forecast.
- 25 Increase for maximum rates.**
Requires the commissioner to allocate the additional money for the BSF program for calendar year 2023 to counties for the updated maximum rates based on relative need to cover the rate increases. When allocating the funds among counties, the commissioner must consider the number of children covered in each county, provider types caring for covered children, age of covered children, and the amount of the increase in maximum rates.
- 26 Direction to the commissioner of human services; child care and development fund allocation.**
Directs the commissioner to make a onetime allocation of \$75,364,000 in fiscal year 2023 from the child care and development fund for child care assistance rate and registration fee increases.
- 27 Repealer.**
Repeals subdivisions made obsolete by forecasting the BSF program.

Makes the section effective July 10, 2023.

Article 2: Forecast adjustments

This article contains forecast adjustments for DHS programs and policies, including MFIP child care assistance.

Article 3: Appropriations

This article contains DHS appropriations.



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