

Subject Funding for child care providers

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Overview

This bill appropriates \$159.6 million to the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) for support funds for child care providers to help them with the cost of implementing state and federal public health guidance related to COVID-19. The bill also appropriates \$11.5 million to DHS to increase the number of families who receive child care assistance under the basic sliding fee (BSF) program. The bill provides that if the state receives federal funding for which the activities in this bill are an eligible expenditure, DHS must cancel the state general fund appropriation and use the federal funds for the activities.

Summary

Section	Description
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| 1 | <p>Federal funds replacement of state appropriation.</p> <p>Directs DHS to cancel a state general fund appropriation received under the bill if the state receives federal funds between January 1, 2021, and June 30, 2021, for which the activities in this bill are an eligible expenditure.</p> |
| 2 | <p>COVID-19 public health support funds for child care programs; appropriation.</p> <p>Appropriates \$159.6 million to DHS for support funds for eligible child care providers to help with costs associated with COVID-19. The support funds are available on a noncompetitive basis to eligible providers, which are licensed family child care providers, licensed child care centers, and certified, license-exempt child care centers that comply with specified requirements. Eligible providers receive monthly awards for six months – January through June 2021. Eligible licensed family child care providers may receive up to \$1,500 each month, eligible licensed child care centers may receive up to \$10,000 each month, and eligible certified, license-exempt child care centers may receive up to \$3,500 each month.</p> |
| 3 | <p>Direction to commissioner; basic sliding fee program; appropriation.</p> <p>Makes temporary changes to the eligibility priorities for the BSF program by moving transition year extension families down the BSF waiting list beginning February 1,</p> |

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	2021, through May 30, 2021. Appropriates \$1.5 million to DHS for the expenditures associated with moving these families down the waiting list. Appropriates about \$10 million to DHS to increase the number of families who can move from the BSF waiting list to receiving BSF child care assistance.
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