

HB 2346 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Human Services and Housing

Action Date: 04/01/19

Action: Do pass with amendments
and be referred to Ways and Means by prior reference. (Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 8-0-1-0

Yeas: 8 - Helt, Meek, Mitchell, Noble, Sanchez, Schouten, Williams, Zika

Exc: 1 - Keny-Guyer

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 2/20, 4/1

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Establishes the Task Force on Access to Quality Affordable Child Care. Outlines the membership of the task force. Outlines the work of the task force. Directs the Early Learning Division and Department of Human Services to provide staff support. Repeals task force on December 31, 2020. Appropriates General Funds to carry out the task force duties. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Median annual price of full-time care for a toddler
- Development of children in their first five years of life and need for access to quality, early care
- Only 17 percent of low-income eligible families with children have a child care subsidy
- Median wage for child care providers

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Replaces the measure.

BACKGROUND:

The Department of Human Services (DHS) Employment-Related Day Care program (ERDC) helps eligible low-income families pay for child care while they are working. ERDC is a subsidy program, meaning eligible families still pay part of the child care cost. DHS has a maximum amount they will pay a child care provider. If the cost of care is higher than the DHS maximum rates, the parent is responsible for the additional costs, plus the copayment. The family pays the copayment directly to the provider. If the copayment is higher than the amount DHS will pay, the family is not eligible for assistance. Each family has one copayment determined by family size and income.

HB 2346-A establishes the Task Force on Access to Quality Affordable Child Care.