

HB 2683 -1, -2 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Early Childhood and Human Services

Prepared By: Matthew Perreault, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 2/1, 4/3

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Provides that a child who has an open case in the child welfare system, notwithstanding family income or other eligibility criteria, is eligible to participate in the Employment Related Day Care Program.

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Barriers to expanding number of available resource families
- Current eligibility criteria for Employment Related Day Care (ERDC)
- Federal regulations for spending of Child Care and Development Fund moneys
- Number of additional children potentially served by expansion
- Matching and reimbursement rates for ERDC
- Eligibility when a child's case is closed

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Replaces the measure. Requires that eligibility for participation in Employment Related Day Care must be based on a family's employment status. Requires that additional eligibility criteria include consideration of child or family's involvement with child welfare and related services, homelessness, teen parent, or domestic violence. Directs Early Learning Council to adopt rules providing eligibility criteria for children and families receiving child welfare and related services by July 1, 2025, and those receiving homelessness, teen parent, or domestic violence services by July 1, 2027.

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

-2 Replaces the measure. Directs Early Learning Council to adopt rules establishing independent bases of eligibility for Employment Related Day Care based on family's household income; family's employment status; child or family's involvement with child welfare and related services; child or family's usage of homelessness, teen parent, or domestic violence services; and any other additional criteria established by the council. Directs Early Learning Council to adopt rules providing eligibility criteria for children and families receiving child welfare and related services by July 1, 2025, and those receiving homelessness, teen parent, or domestic violence services by July 1, 2027.

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

BACKGROUND:

The Employment Related Day Care (ERDC) program provides subsidized access to child care for families with working parents. Eligibility is typically considered based on family income but may consider other factors such as whether parents are enrolled in school or the presence of a mental or medical health condition. The program is currently operated by the Department of Human Services (DHS) but will be turned over to the Department of

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Early Learning and Care on July 1, 2023.

The child welfare system encompasses the state's management of foster care, adoption services, residential treatment, shelter-care, and other services for children under age 18 and their families that are typically handled through DHS.

House Bill 2683 expands access to ERDC for children who have an open case in the child welfare system without regard to income or other eligibility criteria.