

Senate File 163 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 163

BY ZAUN

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to state child care assistance, including
2 income eligibility and waiting list guidelines and copayment
3 requirements and providing an effective date.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 237A.13, subsection 7, paragraph c, Code
2 2019, is amended to read as follows:

3 c. Families with an income of more than one hundred percent
4 but not more than one hundred ~~forty-five~~ eighty-five percent
5 of the federal poverty level whose members, for at least
6 twenty-eight hours per week in the aggregate, are employed
7 or are participating at a satisfactory level in an approved
8 training program or educational program.

9 Sec. 2. DIRECTIVE TO DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES — CHILD
10 CARE ASSISTANCE.

11 1. The department of human services shall amend its
12 administrative rules pursuant to chapter 17A to do all of the
13 following:

14 a. Provide income eligibility for state child care
15 assistance, according to family size for children needing basic
16 care, to families whose nonexempt gross monthly income does not
17 exceed one hundred eighty-five percent of the federal poverty
18 level.

19 b. Adjust the state child care assistance copayment
20 schedule in incrementally increased amounts for families whose
21 nonexempt gross monthly income does not exceed two hundred
22 percent of the federal poverty level.

23 2. The department may adopt emergency rules to implement
24 this section. The rules adopted pursuant to this section shall
25 take effect July 1, 2019.

26 Sec. 3. EMERGENCY RULES. The department of human services
27 shall submit a notice of intended action to the administrative
28 rules coordinator and the administrative code editor pursuant
29 to section 17A.4, subsection 1, paragraph "a", not later
30 than sixty days after the effective date of this Act, for
31 the adoption of rules to implement this Act. The department
32 of human services shall additionally submit emergency rules
33 adopted under section 17A.4, subsection 3, and section 17A.5,
34 subsection 2, paragraph "b", by the same date.

35 Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act, being deemed of immediate

1 importance, takes effect upon enactment.

2

EXPLANATION

3

The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
4 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

5

This bill relates to state child care assistance, including
6 income eligibility and waiting list guidelines and copayment
7 requirements.

8

The state child care assistance program is administered
9 by the department of human services (DHS). Based upon the
10 availability of the funding appropriated for state child care
11 assistance for a fiscal year, the DHS establishes waiting
12 lists for state child care assistance in descending order
13 of prioritization. Under current law, one of the waiting
14 list requirements relates to families with an income of
15 more than 100 percent but not more than 145 percent of the
16 federal poverty level whose members, for at least 28 hours
17 per week in the aggregate, are employed or are participating
18 at a satisfactory level in an approved training program or
19 educational program. The bill increases this waiting list
20 income eligibility limit from 145 percent to 185 percent.

21 The bill directs DHS to amend its administrative rules to
22 provide income eligibility for state child care assistance,
23 according to family size for children needing basic care, to
24 families whose nonexempt gross monthly income does not exceed
25 185 percent of the federal poverty level. The bill also
26 directs DHS to adjust the state child care assistance copayment
27 schedule in incrementally increased amounts for such families
28 whose nonexempt gross monthly income does not exceed 200
29 percent of the federal poverty level. The administrative rules
30 adopted by DHS shall be effective July 1, 2019.

31 The bill provides DHS shall submit a notice of intended
32 action to the administrative rules coordinator and the
33 administrative code editor for adoption of rules not later than
34 60 days after the effective date of the bill for the adoption
35 of rules. The bill requires the department to additionally

S.F. 163

- 1 submit emergency rules adopted by the same date.
- 2 The bill takes effect upon enactment.