

Senate File 177 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 177

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A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the state child care assistance eligibility
2 requirements and provider reimbursement rates.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. DIRECTIVE TO DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
2 — CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE — FAMILY INCOME ELIGIBILITY
3 REQUIREMENTS.

4 1. The department of human services shall amend its
5 administrative rules pursuant to chapter 17A to provide income
6 eligibility for state child care assistance, according to
7 family size for children needing basic care, to families whose
8 nonexempt gross monthly income does not exceed the following
9 amounts according to the following schedule:

10 a. One hundred fifty percent of the federal poverty level,
11 effective July 1, 2021.

12 b. One hundred sixty percent of the federal poverty level,
13 effective July 1, 2022.

14 c. One hundred seventy percent of the federal poverty level,
15 effective July 1, 2023.

16 d. One hundred eighty percent of the federal poverty level,
17 effective July 1, 2024.

18 e. One hundred ninety percent of the federal poverty level,
19 effective July 1, 2025.

20 f. Two hundred percent of the federal poverty level,
21 effective July 1, 2026.

22 2. The department of human services shall amend its
23 administrative rules pursuant to chapter 17A to provide that
24 child care assistance under the child care assistance plus exit
25 eligibility program shall continue until a family's nonexempt
26 gross monthly income exceeds two hundred fifty percent of the
27 federal poverty level.

28 3. For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021, for child
29 care providers reimbursed under the state child care assistance
30 program, the department of human services shall set provider
31 reimbursement rates based on the most recent market rate survey
32 completed in 2020.

33 4. EMERGENCY RULES. The department of human services
34 may adopt emergency rules under section 17A.4, subsection 3,
35 and section 17A.5, subsection 2, paragraph "b", to implement

1 the provisions of this Act and the rules shall be effective
2 immediately upon filing unless a later date is specified in the
3 rules. Any rules adopted in accordance with this section shall
4 also be published as a notice of intended action as provided
5 in section 17A.4.

6 EXPLANATION

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

9 This bill relates to the state child care assistance income
10 eligibility requirements for families and reimbursement rates
11 for child care providers.

12 The state child care assistance program is administered by
13 the department of human services (DHS). The bill directs DHS
14 to amend its administrative rules to provide income eligibility
15 for state child care assistance, according to family size for
16 children needing basic care, to families whose nonexempt gross
17 monthly income does not exceed 150 percent of the federal
18 poverty level, effective July 1, 2021; 160 percent of the
19 federal poverty level, effective July 1, 2022; 170 percent of
20 the federal poverty level, effective July 1, 2023; 180 percent
21 of the federal poverty level, effective July 1, 2024; 190
22 percent of the federal poverty level, effective July 1, 2025;
23 and 200 percent of the federal poverty level, effective July 1,
24 2026. The bill also directs DHS to amend its administrative
25 rules to provide that eligibility for the child care assistance
26 plus exit program shall continue until a family's nonexempt
27 gross monthly income exceeds 250 percent of the federal poverty
28 level.

29 The bill directs DHS, for the fiscal year beginning July 1,
30 2021, to set reimbursement rates for child care providers under
31 the state child care assistance program to rates based on the
32 most recent market rate survey completed in 2020.