

## CHAPTER 1135

### CHILD CARE CENTERS — EMPLOYEE MINIMUM AGE, FINGERPRINTING, AND SUPERVISION — STAFF-TO-CHILDREN RATIOS

H.F. 2198

**AN ACT** relating to child care center minimum age requirements for employees and staff-to-children ratios, and including effective date provisions.

*Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:*

Section 1. [Section 726.23, subsection 2](#), Code 2022, is amended by adding the following new paragraph:

NEW PARAGRAPH. *e.* Fingerprints are voluntarily given with the written permission of the child and parent or guardian for the purpose of allowing the child to work as an employee or substitute at a child care center as defined in [section 237A.1](#).

Sec. 2. DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES — CHILD CARE PROVIDER MINIMUM AGE REQUIREMENT. The department of human services shall amend its administrative rules pursuant to [chapter 17A](#) to provide that employees and substitutes working at a child care center who are sixteen years of age or older may provide child care to school age children without additional supervision. For the purposes of this section, “child care” and “child care center” mean the same as defined in [section 237A.1](#).

Sec. 3. DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES — CHILD CARE CENTER STAFF RATIO RULES. The department of human services shall amend its administrative rules pursuant to [chapter 17A](#) to provide that child care centers maintain a minimum child-to-staff ratio of one child care worker for every seven children who are two years of age and a minimum child-to-staff ratio of one child care worker for every ten children who are three years of age.

Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. The following, being deemed of immediate importance, takes effect upon enactment:

The section of this Act relating to child care center staff ratio rules.

Approved June 16, 2022