

Introduced by

Senators Hogan, Braunberger

Representatives Meier, Mitskog, O'Brien

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 50-11.1 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code, relating to the establishment of a child care workforce recruitment and retention
3 program.

4 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

5 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 50-11.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is created
6 and enacted as follows:

7 **Child care workforce recruitment and retention program - Incentive payment.**

- 8 1. The department shall establish a child care workforce recruitment and retention
9 program to address child care workforce shortages. The department shall remit a
10 monthly incentive payment to each licensed early childhood services provider based
11 on the number of children allowed to receive early childhood services on the premise
12 under the license. The monthly payment is calculated at:
- 13 a. Fifty dollars per number of infants;
14 b. Thirty dollars per number of toddlers; and
15 c. Fifteen dollars per number of school-aged children.
- 16 2. Payments may be made when a provider submits information to the department on a
17 quarterly basis regarding the average number of enrolled children for the previous
18 three months. The department may suspend payments to a licensed early childhood
19 services provider if the provider's average number of enrolled children decreases by
20 twenty-five percent or more from the previous reporting period.
- 21 3. To be eligible to receive a payment under this section, a provider may not have
22 received a corrective action order in the previous three months.

- 1 4. Each provider receiving a payment under this section must submit an annual report to
- 2 the department regarding how the incentive payments received under this section
- 3 were used to directly address salary and benefit needs of child care workers.