

FIRST ENGROSSMENT

ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1119

Introduced by

Human Services Committee

(At the request of the Department of Health and Human Services)

1 A BILL for an Act to provide for a legislative management study regarding early childhood
2 services and child care.

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

4 **SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY - EARLY CHILDHOOD SERVICES.**

- 5 1. During the 2025-26 interim, the legislative management shall consider studying the
6 laws, administrative rules, and policies relating to early childhood services and child
7 care.
- 8 2. The study must:
- 9 a. Evaluate the current early childhood services framework, identifying strengths,
10 challenges, and opportunities, including opportunities to streamline the
11 administrative process, to enhance clarity for providers, and to provide services
12 for more children.
- 13 b. Consider licensing requirements, the federal and state assistance programs
14 available, education requirements for program operators, training and certification
15 requirements for staff members, the number of children in an early childhood
16 program, child to provider ratios, and square footage requirements.
- 17 3. The legislative management shall report its findings and recommendations, together
18 with any legislation necessary to implement the recommendations, to the seventieth
19 legislative assembly.

20 **SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY - EARLY CHILDHOOD SERVICES**

21 **ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

- 22 1. During the 2025-26 interim, the legislative management shall establish and provide
23 staffing and administrative services to an early childhood services advisory committee
24 to study the laws, administrative rules, and policies relating to early childhood services
25 and child care.
- 26 2. The study must:
- 27 a. Evaluate the current early childhood services framework, identifying strengths,
28 challenges, and opportunities, including opportunities to streamline the
29 administrative process, to enhance clarity for providers, and to provide services
30 for more children.
- 1 b. Consider licensing requirements, the federal and state assistance programs
2 available, education requirements for program operators, training and certification
3 requirements for staff members, the number of children in an early childhood
4 program, child to provider ratios, and square footage requirements.
- 5 c. Include input from an advisory committee.
- 6 3. The advisory committee shall consist of:
- 7 a. Three representatives of the department of health and human services;
8 b. Two child care center representatives appointed by the legislative management;
9 c. Two group child care representatives appointed by the legislative management;
10 d. Two preschool program representatives appointed by the legislative
11 management;
- 12 e. A member of the house of representatives selected by the majority leader of the
13 house of representatives; and
- 14 f. A member of the senate selected by the majority leader of the senate.
- 15 4. The legislative management shall report its findings and recommendations, together
16 with any legislation necessary to implement the recommendations, to the seventieth
17 legislative assembly.