

Sixtieth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

REENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2186

Introduced by

Senators Wardner, Krebsbach, Mathern

Representatives Gulleson, Hawken, Martinson

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 early childhood care workforce development and department of
3 human services establishment of a quality improvement rating system for early childhood care
4 facilities and program and business technical assistance for early childhood care providers; and
5 to provide an appropriation.

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

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

9 **Workforce development - Quality improvement - Technical assistance.**

- 10 1. The department, in consultation with higher education officials, shall provide
11 opportunities for the early childhood care and education workforce voluntarily and
12 systematically to attain focused training resulting in certificates, specializations,
13 licensure, credentials, and degrees in early childhood development and education.
14 The department shall establish a statewide system to build systematic training,
15 including:
- 16 a. Development and implementation of training and education that leads to
17 certificates, degrees, and other specializations in specific aspects of the early
18 care and education field.
 - 19 b. Development and maintenance of a professional registry for the early
20 childhood care workforce to track training, education, and experience.
 - 21 c. Development and implementation of a technical assistance program for early
22 childhood care providers.
- 23 2. The department, in consultation with the state department of health,
24 superintendent of public instruction, department of commerce, and a variety of

1 early childhood care representatives, shall develop a voluntary quality rating
2 system for licensed early childhood facilities which may be used as a tool to inform
3 parents, public officials, and other purchasers of child care regarding the level of
4 quality at a facility.

5 3. The department shall establish a quality improvement program for center and
6 home-based child care programs which may include accreditation and quality
7 enhancement plans.

8 4. The department shall provide program and business technical assistance and
9 support to any early childhood facility that attempts to meet the quality
10 improvement and rating system criteria. The department may contract with a
11 private nonprofit organization to provide technical assistance under this
12 subsection.

13 **SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the
14 general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$1,900,000, or so
15 much of the sum as may be necessary, to the department of human services for the purpose of
16 implementing section 1 of this Act, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2007, and ending
17 June 30, 2009.