

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
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~~program evaluation regarding
2 early childhood services and child care.

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

4 **SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT ~~STUDY~~PROGRAM EVALUATION -**
5 **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES EARLY CHILDHOOD SERVICES**
6 **SECTION.**

7 1. During the 2025-26 interim, the ~~legislative management shall consider studying the~~
8 ~~laws, administrative rules, and policies relating to early childhood services and child~~
9 ~~care~~legislative council shall consider conducting a program evaluation of the
10 department of health and human services early childhood services section to
11 determine whether the program is accomplishing its purpose with efficiency and
12 economy.

13 2. The ~~study~~program evaluation must include:

14 a. ~~Evaluate~~Review and analysis of state and federal laws, administrative rules, and
15 policies relating to early childhood services and child care.

16 b. Evaluation of the ~~current~~ early childhood services framework, identifying
17 strengths, challenges, and opportunities, including opportunities to streamline the
18 administrative process, to enhance clarity for providers, and to provide services
19 for more children.

20 ~~_____ b. Consider~~

- 1 c. Consideration of licensing requirements, the federal and state assistance
- 2 programs available, education requirements for program operators, training and
- 3 certification requirements for staff members, the number of children in an early
- 4 childhood program, child to provider ratios, and square footage requirements.
- 5 d. Review and analysis of child care funding sources, expenditures, and the
- 6 distribution of resources to determine whether the program efficiently and
- 7 effectively uses and distributes resources to support access to affordable and
- 8 safe child care.
- 9 e. Review of recently enacted legislation regarding early childhood services to
- 10 determine if the policies have been timely implemented and properly
- 11 administered, including an analysis of measurable goals and performance data.
- 12 3. ~~The legislative management~~ By August 1, 2026, the legislative council shall report its
- 13 findings and recommendations, ~~together with any legislation necessary to implement~~
- 14 ~~the recommendations, to the seventieth legislative assembly~~ legislative management.
- 15 4. By September 1, 2026, the department of health and human services shall provide a
- 16 written response to the recommendations to the legislative management and the
- 17 legislative council, which may include a proposed corrective action plan.
- 18 5. The legislative management shall report its findings and recommendations, together
- 19 with any legislation necessary to implement the recommendations, to the seventieth
- 20 legislative assembly.