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Chapter 115 – Omnibus E-12, Children, and Families (H.F. 5237)

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ARTICLE 1 GENERAL EDUCATION

Section 1. Length of school year; hours of instruction. Makes a technical change to conform to a provision enacted in 2023 that eliminated funding disparities for kindergartners with a disability. Effective for the 2023-2024 school year and later.

Sec. 2. Area learning center transportation aid. Allows cooperative units to directly receive area learning center transportation aid. (Under current law, only school districts may directly receive these funds.) Effective for revenue in fiscal year 2024 and later.

Sec. 3. School district EL revenue. Makes technical corrections. Strikes language recodified in a later section of the act. Effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 4. English learner cross subsidy aid. Defines “qualifying English learner services” as the services necessary to implement the Language Instruction Education Program for English learners. Recodifies the English learner cross subsidy aid program stricken from a previous section of the act. Effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 5. Money appropriated [for unemployment benefits aid program]. Modifies the payment schedule for the school unemployment aid from the account in the special revenue fund. Directs the commissioner to pay 90 percent of the aid in the current fiscal year and ten percent in the next fiscal year on a schedule determined by the commissioner. Effective for fiscal year 2024 and later.

Sec. 6. Learning year pupil units. Makes technical changes to conform to a provision enacted in 2023 that eliminated funding disparities for kindergartners with a disability. Effective for the 2023-2024 school year and later.

Sec. 7. Local optional revenue. Increases equalization aid in fiscal year 2025 in the local optional revenue program, reducing the local optional levy to offset other statewide increases in market value levies attributable to additional voluntary prekindergarten (VPK) seats authorized under this act. Effective for fiscal year 2025 and later.

Sec. 8. Compensatory education revenue. Modifies the compensatory education revenue program to continue including the amount of a district's 2017 compensatory revenue pilot grant in the district's compensatory revenue for fiscal year 2026 and later. Extends the statewide compensatory revenue hold harmless beyond fiscal year 2027. Strikes language recodified in a later section of the act. Strikes other redundant language. Effective for revenue in fiscal year 2025 and later.

Sec. 9. Definitions [applicable to the compensatory revenue program]. Recodifies language stricken from a previous section of the act. Makes other technical changes. Effective for revenue in fiscal year 2025 and later.

Sec. 10. Statewide compensatory allowance. Strikes duplicative and conflicting language. Effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 11. Basic skills revenue. Makes a conforming change to the definition of basic skills revenue to include the English learner cross subsidy aid recodified in a previous section. Effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 12. Operating capital levy. Clarifies that the portion of operating capital revenue for menstrual products and opiate antagonists is paid in state aid. Increases equalization aid in fiscal year 2025 in the operating capital revenue program, reducing the operating capital levy to offset other statewide increases in net tax capacity levies attributable to additional voluntary prekindergarten (VPK) seats authorized under this act. Effective for fiscal year 2024 and later.

Sec. 13. Pupil transportation adjustment. Includes a district's area learning center transportation aid in the calculation of the pupil transportation adjustment. Effective for revenue in fiscal year 2025 and later.

Sec. 14. Statewide average revenue. Corrects the statutory cross reference to the equity revenue program. Effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 15. General education aid. Increases the general education aid appropriation in fiscal year 2025 to pay the state aid costs attributable to additional voluntary prekindergarten (VPK) seats. Effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 16. One-room schoolhouse. Modifies an existing funding stream to the Warroad School District to operate the Angle Inlet School. Changes the annual funding from a grant to an aid to reduce administrative burdens on the school district and the department. Effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 17. Windom School District onetime supplemental aid. Cancels a portion of the Laws 2023 appropriation for onetime supplemental aid to Windom School District. (The final aid amount has already been calculated and paid to the district.) Effective immediately.

Sec. 18. Basic skills revenue account transfers. Requires a school district to transfer certain basic skills revenue funds held in a restricted fund balance into another restricted fund balance for use consistent with current statutory program requirements. Effective immediately.

Sec. 19. Task force on English learner programs. Establishes a task force on English learner programs. Provides for task force membership, duties, and compensation. Requires the Department of Education to provide administrative support for the task force. Requires a report. Effective immediately.

Sec. 20. Student attendance pilot program. Establishes a pilot program to address student attendance and engagement. Identifies 12 school districts and one charter school to participate in the pilot program. Requires participating schools to meet regularly to share updates on program implementation and to report four times to the legislature on the school's pilot program activities. Provides for eligible uses of pilot program aid. Effective immediately.

Sec. 21. Student attendance and truancy legislative study group. Establishes a student attendance and truancy legislative study group consisting of four members of the Senate and four members of the House of Representatives. Provides for study group duties. Requires the Legislative Coordinating Commission to provide administrative support for the study group. Requires the study group to submit two reports to the legislature. Effective immediately.

Sec. 22. Appropriations. Appropriates money from the general fund for attendance pilot program aid for the 12 school district participants in the pilot program, for a grant to the Minnesota Alliance with Youth, for the administrative costs of the student attendance and truancy legislative study group, and for the administrative costs of the English learner program task force. Effective July 1, 2024.

ARTICLE 2 EDUCATION EXCELLENCE

Section 1. Required standard. Adds health as a required statewide academic standard for student learning, instead of a locally adopted standard. Effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 2. Required academic standards. Strikes reference to locally developed health academic standards. States that locally developed health academic standards apply until statewide rules implementing statewide health standards are required to be implemented in the classroom. Effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 3. Standards development. Adds health to the statewide standards developed by the commissioner of education. Requires the commissioner to consider advice from current students and the Minnesota Youth Council in developing statewide standards. Effective immediately.

Sec. 4. Rulemaking. Directs the commissioner to adopt statewide rules for implementing statewide standards in health. Effective immediately.

Sec. 5. Revisions and review required. Adds health education standards to the standards revision and review cycle. Directs the commissioner to review the health education standards beginning in the 2034-2035 school year and every ten years thereafter. Effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 6. Graduation requirements. Adds a high school graduation requirement of credits sufficient to satisfy the state health standards once the implementation rules for health standards are adopted. Effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 7. Crisis management policy. Requires the commissioner to make available a model cardiac emergency response plan. Allows a school board or charter school to adopt the model cardiac emergency response plan. Effective January 1, 2025.

Sec. 8. Approval process [for P-TECH schools]. Strikes obsolete language. Effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 9. P-TECH implementation grants: support; start-up; and mentoring grants. Modifies the P-TECH grant program. Authorizes P-TECH schools to partner with schools in other districts. For fiscal year 2026 and later, limits the amount of a P-TECH support grant to no more than \$500,000 per year. Limits the amount of a start-up grant or a mentoring and technical assistance grant to no more than \$50,000. Authorizes administrative costs. Effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 10. Establishment and membership [of the Minnesota Youth Council]. Clarifies that a member of the Minnesota Youth Council must be in grades 8 through 12. Effective for appointments made on or after July 1, 2024.

Sec. 11. Emergency medical training [grants]. Provides for a grant in fiscal year 2025 to the St. Cloud School District for an emergency medical services education facility. Increases the fiscal year 2025 appropriation. Provides for administrative expenses. Effective immediately.

Sec. 12. Computer science educator training and capacity building. Clarifies that a local educational agency, not part of a consortium of local educational agencies, is eligible to receive a grant. Allows computer science content that is part of another course in addition to a computer science course to qualify for the grant. Effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 13. Achievement and integration aid. Increases the achievement and integration aid appropriation in fiscal year 2025 to pay the state aid costs attributable to additional voluntary prekindergarten (VPK) seats. Effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 14. Computer science education advancement. For fiscal year 2025 only, transfers \$50,000 to the Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board for computer science teacher licensure activities. Effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 15. Ethnic studies school grants. Extends the availability of the fiscal year 2024 appropriation for the ethnic studies school grants. Effective immediately.

Sec. 16. Full-service community schools [grants]. Extends the availability of the fiscal year 2024 appropriation for the full-service community schools grants. Effective immediately.

Sec. 17. Minnesota Council on Economic Education [grant]. Aligns the distribution timeline for the grant to the Minnesota Council on Economic Education to align with standard Office of Grant Management policies related to reimbursement, budgets, and progress monitoring. Effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 18. Nonexclusionary discipline [grants]. Extends the availability of the fiscal year 2024 nonexclusionary discipline grants. Effective immediately.

Sec. 19. P-TECH schools. Cancels the previous fiscal year 2025 appropriation for P-TECH schools. (The money is reappropriated in a later section of the act.) Extends the availability of the fiscal year 2024 appropriation. Provides an amount for administrative costs. Effective immediately.

Sec. 20. Alternative to publishing. Allows a school district to publish its proceedings on the district website when the qualified newspaper designated by the school district ceases to exist. Requires the school district to request that the same information be posted at each public library located within the school district. This section expires on August 1, 2026. Effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 21. Health education standards. Directs the commissioner to begin the rulemaking process to adopt statewide academic standards in health education. Directs the commissioner to consult with the commissioners of health and human services in developing the proposed rules. Requires the rules include the following expectations for learning: cardiopulmonary resuscitation and automatic defibrillator education, vaping awareness and prevention education, cannabis use and substance use education, sexually transmitted infections and diseases education, and mental health education in grades 4 through 12. Allows the rules to include the following optional expectations for learning: child sexual abuse prevention education, violence prevention education, character development education, safe and supportive schools education, and other expectations for learning identified through the standards development process. Effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 22. Appropriations. Appropriates money from the general fund for civic education grants, for the Minnesota Youth Council, for health standards rulemaking and administrative costs, and P-TECH schools. Effective July 1, 2024.

ARTICLE 3 THE READ ACT

Section 1. Resources. [Read Act implementation]. Requires the department to partner with the Center for Applied Research and Educational Improvement (CAREI) to approve at least 15 literacy intervention models by November 1, 2025; coach and support certified trained facilitators; and collaborate with publishers to update curriculum and intervention materials to be culturally responsive and reflect students with disabilities. Effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 2. Volunteer and paraprofessional training. [Read Act implementation]. Requires the department and CAREI to develop and provide training on evidence-based literacy interventions for unlicensed persons that regularly provide Tier 2 interventions to students. Effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 3. Literacy incentive aid uses. Makes clarifying changes. Modifies the list of allowed uses to include employing an intervention specialist and providing stipends to teachers for completing training required under Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.12. Effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 4. Read Act literacy aid. Modifies a Laws 2023 appropriation for Read Act reimbursements to instead be paid as a state aid. Provides a per-pupil aid amount based on the enrollment of each school district, charter school, and cooperative unit providing direct instructional services. Requires that the aid be reserved for literacy interventions authorized under the Read Act or for activities authorized under the literacy incentive aid program. Modifies the availability and payment schedule for the fiscal year 2024 appropriation. Effective immediately.

Sec. 5. Read Act professional development appropriation. Appropriates money from the general fund for statewide training. Modifies the appropriation uses to require the department to develop a data collection system capable of collecting and analyzing local literacy plans and screening data. Allows funding to be used for providing training in structured literacy to fourth and fifth grade classroom teachers and literacy professors from Minnesota higher education institutions. Effective immediately.

Sec. 6. Read Act deaf, deafblind, and hard of hearing working group. Establishes a working group to make recommendations on literacy training, screeners, and curriculum for students who are deaf, deafblind, and hard of hearing. Provides for membership and duties. Requires a report to the legislature by January 15, 2025. Makes members eligible for per diem compensation. Provides an expiration date for the working group. Effective immediately.

Sec. 7. Teacher compensation for Read Act training. Provides compensation for eligible teachers who have completed approved training required under the Read Act. Allows teachers to be compensated by stipends, payments based on a teacher's hourly rate of pay and the time to complete the approved training, and reimbursement for structured literacy training paid by the teacher. Excludes the stipends for income for certain purposes. Effective immediately, except for determinations of medical assistance eligibility which are effective July 1, 2024, or upon federal approval.

Sec. 8. Appropriations. Appropriates money in fiscal year 2025 for purposes related to the Read Act including teacher compensation for training; costs of the deaf, deafblind, and hard of hearing working group; contract costs to develop supplemental culturally responsive materials; and structured literacy instruction training for paraprofessionals and volunteers. Establishes a formula to distribute state aid for teacher compensation for Read Act training among school districts, charter schools, and cooperative units. Effective July 1, 2024.

ARTICLE 4 AMERICAN INDIAN EDUCATION

Section 1. Indigenous education for all students. Requires the commissioner of education to consult with Tribal Nations located in Minnesota and with Minnesota's Tribal Nations Education Committee (TNEC) about the need for additional funding for each Tribal Nation to continue developing resources for Indigenous education for all students. Requires the commissioner to publish related materials and findings online and submit a report to the legislature. Clarifies that this consultation does not replace or limit the consultation required under Minnesota Statutes, section 10.65. Effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 2. Carry forward of [American Indian education aid] funds. Extends the availability of unspent American Indian education aid funds carried forward from a previous fiscal year. Effective for revenue in fiscal year 2024 and later.

Sec. 3. Appropriation. Appropriates money in fiscal year 2025 only for onetime permanent school fund supplemental aid to Tribal contract schools. Requires that the aid be apportioned among schools according to the school's fiscal year 2024 average daily membership served. Effective July 1, 2024.

ARTICLE 5 TEACHERS

Section 1. Paraprofessional training. Clarifies that the entities eligible for the paraprofessional training reimbursement are also required to provide the required hours of training. Provides a definition of compensation to mean an hourly wage, taxes, and employer-paid pension contributions. Allows a school to reduce paraprofessional training hours for the 2024-2025 school year only without a reduction in paraprofessional training aid. Requires a school to pay for certain testing and materials costs for a paraprofessional who has not successfully completed the paraprofessional assessment or met the requirements of the paraprofessional competency grid. Effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 2. Basic alternative teacher compensation aid. Increases the basic alternative teacher compensation (Q-Comp) aid limit in fiscal year 2025 to account for additional voluntary prekindergarten (VPK) seats. Effective for fiscal year 2025 and later.

Sec. 3. [Alternative teacher compensation] revenue reserved. Requires alternative teacher compensation revenue to be reserved in a restricted fund and used only for allowable purposes under the program. Effective for fiscal year 2025 and later.

Sec. 4. Grow Your Own district programs. Makes Tribal contract schools eligible for grants under the Grow Your Own program. Effective immediately.

Sec. 5. [Grow Your Own] grants for programs serving secondary school students. Makes Tribal contract schools eligible for grants under the program. Allows the program to fund scholarships for students at postsecondary institutions that have articulated transfer pathways with a board-approved teacher preparation program. Effective immediately.

Sec. 6. [Grow Your Own] grant procedure. Strikes obsolete language. Effective immediately.

Sec. 7. [Special education teacher pipeline] grant program established. Makes Tribal contract schools eligible for grants under the program. Effective immediately.

Sec. 8. [Special education teacher pipeline] grant uses. Expands the allowable uses of the grant to include any participant employed by the grantee. Effective immediately.

Sec. 9. Paid leave for school closures. Provides that a school district or charter school that alters its calendar due to a weather event, public health emergency, or any other circumstance, pay full wages and benefits to all school employees for their scheduled work hours if the district or charter school counts that day as an instructional day for any students in the district or charter school. Clarifies other remote work authority and e-learning day pay arrangements. Clarifies the paid leave requirement for school employees in school-age care programs, school youth recreation and enrichment programs, or general community education programs. Effective immediately.

Sec. 10. Student support personnel aid. Requires school districts and charter schools to reserve student support personnel aid in a restricted fund balance. Authorizes a district to carry unspent aid forward for use in subsequent fiscal years subject to certain reserve balance limits. Effective for fiscal year 2024 and later.

Sec. 11. Alternative teacher compensation aid. Increases the alternative teacher compensation aid appropriation in fiscal year 2025 to pay the state aid costs attributable to additional voluntary prekindergarten (VPK) seats. Effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 12. Closing educational opportunity gaps grants. Extends the availability of the FY 2024 appropriation for the grants. Effective immediately.

Sec. 13. Statewide teacher mentoring program. Expands the allowable uses of mentoring program grant funds to include mentorships for Tier 2 licensed special education teachers. Effective immediately.

Sec. 14. Student support personnel workforce pipeline. Extends the availability of the fiscal year 2024 appropriation for the grants. Effective immediately.

Sec. 15. Teacher residency program. Makes a technical change relating to the availability of the appropriation from one year to the next. Effective immediately.

Sec. 16. Collaborative urban and greater Minnesota educators of color grants. Makes a technical change relating to the availability of the appropriation from one year to the next. Effective immediately.

Sec. 17. Mentoring, induction, and retention incentive program grants for teachers of color. Makes a technical change relating to the availability of the appropriation from one year to the next. Effective immediately.

Sec. 18. Pathway preparation grants. Modifies eligibility for pathway preparation grants to include teachers holding Tier 1 or 2 licenses and seeking a Tier 3 or 4 license.

Sec. 19. Grant program modifications authorized. Allows Grow Your Own and special education teacher pipeline grant recipients to modify their programs to align with statutory changes in this act made after the grants were awarded. Effective immediately.

Sec. 20. Student teaching stipend pilot program. Creates a student teaching stipend pilot program. Lists the eight postsecondary institutions qualifying for funding. Requires each qualifying postsecondary institution to provide a stipend to each student teacher placed in a Minnesota public school for a 12-week student teaching experience. Excludes the income from the stipend from the recipients' definition of income for purposes of eligibility for certain income assistance programs. Requires PELSB to develop and administer a survey of student teachers participating in the stipend program and interview a representative sample. Requires PELSB to issue a preliminary report to the legislature by February 1, 2025, and a final report by July 1, 2025. Effective July 1, 2024, except the income exclusion for medical assistance eligibility is effective July 1, 2024, or upon federal approval.

Sec. 21. Paraprofessional qualifications examined. Requires the department and the Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board (PELSB) to examine standards for paraprofessionals in consultation with other stakeholders. Directs the department and PELSB to announce a workplan to revise statutory paraprofessional qualifications, including qualifications used for the purpose of state special education aid calculations. Authorizes PELSB to revise rules applicable to paraprofessional qualifications. Clarifies paraprofessional qualifications for the purpose of complying with federal personnel qualifications. Directs the department to revise the minimum

passing scores on paraprofessional assessments. Clarifies the conditions under which a paraprofessional may be funded with state special education aid in the 2024-2025 school year. Requires a school to provide administrative assistance to a paraprofessional in completing the competency requirements, upon request from a paraprofessional.

Sec. 22. Teacher and Paraprofessional Compensation Working Group. Establishes the Teacher and Paraprofessional Compensation Working Group and provides for its membership and duties. Requires the working group to make a report to the legislature. Effective immediately.

Sec. 23. Appropriations; Department of Education. Appropriates money from the general fund to the Department of Education for special education apprenticeship program grants. Effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 24. Appropriations; PELSB. Appropriates money from the general fund to the Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board for the paid student teaching pilot program; for administrative costs of the Teacher and Paraprofessional Compensation Working Group; and transfers money to the Office of Higher Education for the aspiring teachers of color scholarship program. Effective July 1, 2024.

ARTICLE 6 CHARTER SCHOOLS

Section 1. Leased space. Clarifies that the commissioner approves or disapproves applications to receive lease aid, not the leases themselves. Effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 2. Building lease aid. Authorizes the commissioner to establish additional criteria and rubrics to evaluate components of individual charter school building leases. Effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 3. Charter school building lease aid. Increases the building lease aid appropriation in fiscal year 2025 to pay the state aid costs attributable to additional voluntary prekindergarten (VPK) seats. Effective July 1, 2024.

ARTICLE 7 SPECIAL EDUCATION

Section. 1. Program approval [for an adults with disabilities program]. Modifies the program approval requirements for a school district's adults with disabilities program. Removes certain application information. Requires a district to include certain information about the program in the district's annual community education report. Effective July 1, 2024, for plans developed on or after that date.

Sec. 2. Special education services [covered by medical assistance]. Clarifies the range of services provided by a school social worker that can be covered by medical assistance. Effective July 1, 2024, or upon federal approval, whichever is later.

Sec. 3. Psychotherapy for crisis. Provides a definition of "psychotherapy for crisis" and the conditions under which the treatment is covered by medical assistance. Effective immediately.

Sec. 4. Special education; regular. Increases the special education aid appropriation in fiscal year 2025 to pay the state aid costs attributable to additional voluntary prekindergarten (VPK) seats. Effective July 1, 2024.

ARTICLE 8 SCHOOL FACILITIES

Section 1. Review and comment. Clarifies the types of school district capital projects that are exempt from review and comment by the commissioner of education. Clarifies that the review and comment requirement does not begin until the school district makes a final decision to enter into a contract or agreement. Effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 2. Publication. Extends, from 60 days before a referendum to 70 days before a referendum, the requirement that a school board publish a summary of the commissioner of education’s review and comments. Provides that where no such referendum is required, the publication and public meeting requirements do not apply. Effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 3. Lease purchase; installment buys. Clarifies that the review and comment requirements apply to projects that require an expenditure in excess of \$500,000 per school site if the school district has a capital loan outstanding, or \$2,000,000 per school site if the school district does not have a capital loan outstanding. Requires a school board to discuss the commissioner’s review and comment determination and the district’s approved achievement and integration plan findings at a regular or special board meeting within 45 days of the commissioner’s determination. Effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 4. Grants for gender-neutral single-user restrooms. Extends the availability of the fiscal year 2024 appropriation for the grants for gender-neutral single-user restrooms. Effective immediately.

Sec. 5. Long-term facilities maintenance equalized aid. Increases the aid appropriation in fiscal year 2025 to pay the state aid costs attributable to additional voluntary prekindergarten (VPK) seats. Effective July 1, 2024.

ARTICLE 9 NUTRITION AND LIBRARIES

Section 1. School food service fund. Authorizes a school food service program to record the costs of lunchroom furniture in the food service fund if a surplus exists in the food service fund for three successive fiscal years. (Ordinarily, the costs of lunchroom furniture must be recognized in the school’s general fund.) Defines “lunchroom furniture” to mean tables and chairs regularly used by pupils in a lunchroom from which they may consume milk, meals, or snacks in connection with school or community service activities. Effective for revenue in fiscal year 2024 and later.

Sec. 2. State school librarian. Requires the Department of Education to employ a state school librarian within its State Library Services Division. Requires that the state school librarian must be or have been previously licensed as a school library media specialist. Provides for certain statutory duties of the state school librarian. (State Library Services is a division of the Department of Education and provides services to all types of libraries throughout the state.) Effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 3-5. Payment percentage for certain [school nutrition] aids. Makes technical changes to correct statutory references to the aid payment schedule for school nutrition aids. Effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 6. State school librarian [funded from school library aid]. Beginning in fiscal year 2026, authorizes the commissioner to retain a portion of the school library aid appropriation to pay the costs of the state school librarian. (The fiscal year 2025 costs of the state school librarian are funded later in this act through an additional general fund appropriation to the Department of Education.) Effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 7. Report [on school library aid]. Requires the commissioner to annually report to the legislature on how school districts and charter schools use school library aid. Effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 8. School lunch. Increases the school lunch aid appropriation in fiscal year 2025 to pay the state aid costs attributable to additional voluntary prekindergarten (VPK) seats. Effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 9. School breakfast. Increases the school breakfast aid appropriation in fiscal year 2025 to pay the state aid costs attributable to additional voluntary prekindergarten (VPK) seats. Effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 10. Revisor instruction. Recodifies the school library aid program into chapter 124D. Effective July 1, 2024.

ARTICLE 10 STATE AGENCIES

Section 1. Office of the Inspector General; access to data. Adds a subdivision in chapter 13 to clarify that data involving the Department of Education's (MDE) Office of the Inspector General are governed in chapter 127A.

Sec. 2. Office of the Inspector General. Requires the inspector general to report directly to the commissioner and serve in the classified service. Provides definitions applicable to the duties and authorities of the inspector general. Provides the inspector general with certain subpoena power and access to records of MDE program participants, charter schools, and other government entities. Authorizes the inspector general to recommend that the commissioner impose certain appropriate sanctions. Requires the commissioner to give notice to a program participant subject to sanctions. Provides an appeal process for a program participant subject to sanctions. Clarifies the application of the Government Data Practices Act relative to the activities of the inspector general. Prohibits retaliation or interference with individuals who disclose information to the inspector general. Effective immediately.

Sec. 3. Department [of Education]. Appropriates additional money in fiscal year 2025 only for the state school librarian. Effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 4. Permanent school fund; distribution of endowment fund earnings task force. Establishes a task force to examine the distribution of earnings from the permanent school fund and provides for its members and duties. Requires the task force to make a report to the legislature. Effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 5. Appropriation; Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board. Appropriates money from the general fund to the Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board (PELSB) for information technology costs, including those related to development of an online licensing system. Effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 6. Appropriation; permanent school fund task force. Appropriates money from the general fund for the administrative costs of the permanent school fund task force. Effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 7. Repealer; federal education law implementation report. Repeals an annual report from Minnesota Management and Budget to the legislature estimating the amount of federal revenue that would be withheld if the state discontinued implementation of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Effective July 1, 2024.

ARTICLE 11 EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Section. 1. Participation limits. Increases the number of voluntary prekindergarten (VPK) and school readiness plus (SRP) seats from 7,160 to 12,360 for fiscal year 2025 (an increase of 5,200 seats for that fiscal year). Effective immediately.

Sec. 2. Administration [of early learning scholarships]. Beginning January 1, 2026, modifies the administration of early learning scholarships to allow prospective payment to eligible programs and allow scholarship recipients to initiate transfer of scholarship amounts from one program to another. Requires the commissioner to provide information technology systems in place to prioritize efficiency and usability for scholarship recipients and eligible programs. Effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 3. Early learning scholarship account. Authorizes the commissioner to use up to an additional \$7 million (for a total of up to \$12 million) from the early learning scholarship account for development of information technology systems. Beginning in fiscal year 2026, authorizes the commissioner to use up to \$2.4 million each year for maintenance of the information technology systems that support the early learning scholarship programs. Requires an annual report on the use of funds from the early learning scholarship account. Effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 4. Head Start programs. Beginning in fiscal year 2025, provides up to two percent of the Head Start general fund appropriation for administrative costs. Effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 5. Early childhood curriculum grants. Extends the availability of the fiscal year 2024 appropriation for the grants. Effective immediately.

Sec. 6. Direction to the commissioner of education; adjusting voluntary prekindergarten participation limits. Directs the commissioner to retroactively adjust the prekindergarten seat allocation established for fiscal year 2025 to assign the additional seats authorized earlier in this act. Effective immediately.

Sec. 7. Repealer. Repeals the \$50 million reserved for additional prekindergarten seats in the 2024-2025 school year under Laws 2023 and returns that amount to the general fund. Effective July 1, 2024.

ARTICLE 12 CHILD PROTECTION AND WELFARE

Section. 1. Department of Human Services systemic critical incident review team. Requires the Department of Human Services critical incident review team to also review child fatalities and near fatalities that occur in licensed facilities and are not due to natural causes.

Sec. 2. Treatment of Supplemental Security Income. Requires a financially responsible agency to provide notice when receiving Supplement Security Income (SSI) benefits on behalf of a child in Northstar Care for Children and provides other requirements.

Paragraph (b) requires a financially responsible agency who applies to be a payee for or receives SSI benefits on behalf of a child to provide written notice to various parties, including the child and the child's parent, guardian, or custodian.

Paragraph (c) requires the legally responsible agency and the guardian ad litem to disclose to the child in person when a financially responsible agency receives benefits on behalf of the child. Provides that this requirement does not apply when a child is living outside of Minnesota.

Paragraph (d) prohibits a financially responsible agency receiving benefits on behalf of a child from using those funds for any other purpose than the care of that child and prohibits the commingling of any benefits received. Further prohibits the benefits received from being placed in any general fund.

Paragraph (e) requires a financially responsible agency receiving benefits on behalf of a child to keep a record of the total dollar amount it received, the total number of children it applied to be a payee for, and the total number of children it received benefits for.

Paragraph (f) requires the financially responsible agency to submit a report to the commissioner on the information collected and requires the commissioner to compile the information and provide a report to the legislature.

Sec. 3. Treatment of Retirement, Survivor's, and Disability Insurance; veteran's benefits; railroad retirement benefits; and black lung benefits. Requires a financially responsible agency to provide notice when receiving Retirement, Survivor's, and Disability Insurance (RSDI), veteran's benefits, railroad retirement benefits, or black lung benefits on behalf of a child in Northstar Care for Children and provides other requirements.

Sec. 4. Notice to Tribes of services or court proceedings involving an Indian child. Replaces "sex trafficking" with "human trafficking" for federal compliance.

Sec. 5. Requirements for child-placing agencies and individual petitioners. Requires child-placing agencies to notify an Indian child's Tribe after receiving information on a missing child.

Sec. 6. Child abuse. Adds labor trafficking cross-reference into the definition of "child abuse" for federal compliance.

Sec. 7. Child in need of protection or services. Adds "labor trafficked youth" into the definition of "child in need of protection or services" for federal compliance.

Sec. 8. Labor trafficked youth. Adds “labor trafficked youth” as a definition to the juvenile safety and placement chapter for federal compliance.

Sec. 9. Human trafficking. Adds “human trafficking” as a definition to the juvenile safety and placement chapter for federal compliance.

Sec. 10. Responding to missing children and youth and preventing human trafficking. Modifies the process a responsible social services agency must follow when it learns that a child or youth is missing to comply with federal law.

Sec. 11. Notice. Establishes the same notice, disclosure, and use requirements as under sections 2 and 3, for benefits received under Minnesota Statutes, section 260C.441 1, subdivision 2 (RSDI, SSI for the aged, blind, and disabled, or foster care maintenance payments under Title IV-E). Requires the county of financial responsibility to keep a record of the total amount it received on behalf of all children for whom the county receives benefits, the total number of children it applied to be a payee for, and the total number of children for whom the county receives benefits, and to submit an annual report to the commissioner.

Sec. 12. Establishment of team. Adds “labor trafficking” into the multidisciplinary child protection team for federal compliance.

Sec. 13. Labor trafficking. Adds “labor trafficking” as a definition to the child maltreatment reporting chapter for federal compliance.

Sec. 14. Noncaregiver human trafficker. Replaces “sex trafficker” with “human trafficker” for federal compliance.

Sec. 15. Noncaregiver human trafficking assessment. Replaces “sex trafficking” with “human trafficking” for federal compliance.

Sec. 16. Substantial child endangerment. Adds “labor trafficking” into the definition of “substantial child maltreatment” for federal compliance.

Sec. 17. Neglect, physical abuse, or labor trafficking. Requires a local welfare agency to conduct a family assessment or investigation when a child is identified as a victim of labor trafficking.

Sec. 18. Law enforcement. Adds “labor trafficking” into section governing when a law enforcement agency is responsible for investigating a report of maltreatment for federal compliance.

Sec. 19. Local welfare agency. Replaces “sex trafficking” with “human trafficking” and adds in “labor trafficking” for federal compliance.

Sec. 20. Notice to Child’s Tribe. Replaces “sex trafficking” with “human trafficking” for federal compliance.

Sec. 21. Face-to-face contact. Replaces “sex trafficking” with “human trafficking” for federal compliance.

Sec. 22. Determination after family assessment or a noncaregiver human trafficking assessment. Replaces “sex trafficking” with “human trafficking” for federal compliance.

Sec. 23. Notification at conclusion of family assessment or a noncaregiver human trafficking assessment. Replaces “sex trafficking” with “human trafficking” for federal compliance.

Sec. 24. Following a family assessment or a noncaregiver human trafficking assessment. Replaces “sex trafficking” with “human trafficking” for federal compliance.

Sec. 25. Data retention. Replaces “sex trafficking” with “human trafficking” for federal compliance.

Sec. 26. Human trafficking, sexual exploitation, and youth missing from care training requirement. Makes modifications to training requirements for child protection social workers and social services staff to comply with federal law.

Sec. 27. Child Fatality and Near Fatality Review. Establishes a review process for child fatalities and near fatalities.

Subd. 1. Definitions. Defines “critical incident,” “joint review,” “local review,” “local review team,” and “panel” for the purposes of this section.

Subd. 2. Local child mortality review teams. Requires each county to establish a multidisciplinary local child mortality review team and to participate in local critical incident reviews. Allows a local welfare agency’s child protection team to serve as the local review team. Requires the local review team to conduct reviews of critical incidents jointly with the child mortality review panel.

Subd. 3. Child mortality review panel; establishment and membership. Establishes a child mortality review panel to review critical incidents related to child maltreatment and provides the composition of the panel.

Subd. 4. Critical incident review process. Provides the process for when a critical incident occurs, including when a joint review must be completed. Allows the review panel to make recommendations to improve child safety and well-being to any state or local agency, branch of government, or system partner. Requires the commissioner to conduct additional information gathering as requested by the review panel or local review team and compile a summary report.

Subd. 5. Critical incident reviews; data practices and immunity. Allows access to not public data by the review panel, the local review team, and the commissioner when conducting reviews. Allows access to records of private hospitals as necessary to carry out the duties in this section. Requires a state agency, statewide system, or political subdivision to provide the data upon request by the commissioner. Classifies certain data acquired by a local review team, the review panel, or the commissioner as protected nonpublic or confidential data. Limits the data the commissioner can disclose. Prohibits a person attending a local review team or child mortality review panel meeting from disclosing what transpired at the meeting unless certain circumstances exist. Classifies the proceedings and records of the local review team, the review panel, and the commissioner as protected nonpublic data

and that the proceedings and records are not subject to discovery or introduction into evidence in a civil or criminal action. Provides that a person who presented information before a local review team, the review panel, or the commissioner or who is a member of a local review team or the review panel, or an employee conducting information gathering as designated by the commissioner, is immune from any civil or criminal liability.

Subd. 6. Child mortality review panel; annual report. Requires the commissioner, beginning December 15, 2026, to publish an annual report of the child mortality review panel and provides what must be included in the report.

Subd. 7. Local welfare agency critical incident review training. Requires the commissioner to provide training and support to local review teams to assist with local review processes and procedures.

Subd. 8. Culture of learning and improvement. Requires the local review teams and review panel to advance and support a culture of learning and improvement within Minnesota's child welfare system.

Sec. 28. Exception. Makes clarifying changes to the exception criteria for the minimum basic child support amount.

Sec. 29. Community Resource Center Advisory Council; establishment and duties. Establishes compensation for community resource center advisory council members.

Sec. 30. Supreme Court Council of Child Protection and Maltreatment Prevention. Outlines establishment, membership, administration, duties, and required reports for the Supreme Court Council on Child Protection.

Subd. 1. Establishment. Invites the chief justice of the supreme court to establish a Supreme Court Council on Child Protection, as part of the Children's Justice Initiative, to develop a comprehensive blueprint to improve Minnesota's child protection system.

Subd. 2. Membership. Lists the members of the council and appointing authorities for each member.

Subd. 3. Organization and administration. Specifies that the council is governed by the requirements under Minnesota Statutes, section 15.059; requires the state court administrator to provide administrative support to the council; specifies that council members serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority and that the chief justice must select a chairperson.

Subd. 4. Meetings. Outlines requirements for council meetings, which must begin by September 15, 2024.

Subd. 5. Duties. Requires the council to develop a comprehensive blueprint for improvement that addresses all aspects of the child protection system; lists activities the council must undertake when developing the blueprint.

Subd. 6. Reports. Requires the council to submit an initial progress report to the governor, the chief justice, and the legislature by July 15, 2025. Requires the council to submit a final report by January 15, 2026, detailing the council's comprehensive blueprint.

Subd. 7. Expiration. Specifies that the council expires upon the submission of its final report.

Sec. 31. Direction to Commissioner; Child Maltreatment Reporting Review. Directs the commissioner of human services to review current child maltreatment reporting processes and systems in other states and evaluate the costs and benefits of each.

Sec. 32. Direction to Commissioner of Human Services; Child Welfare Workforce System Improvements. Requires the commissioner of human services, when designing, developing, and implementing a federally compliant Comprehensive Child Welfare Information System, to ensure the system can do specific tasks, such as allowing counties to track financial information.

Sec. 33. Supporting Relative Caregiver Grants. Requires the commissioner of children, youth, and families to award grants to community-based nonprofit organizations to provide culturally competent supports to relative caregivers caring for relative children.

Sec. 34. Revisor Instruction. Instructs the revisor of statutes to renumber the subdivisions in Minnesota Statutes, section 260E.03 in alphabetical order and correct cross-references.

Sec. 35. Repealer. Repeals Minnesota Statutes, section 256.01, subdivision 12 (child mortality review panel) and subdivision 12a (DHS child mortality and near mortality review team) and Minnesota Rules, part 9560.0232, subpart 5 (child mortality review panel).

ARTICLE 13 ECONOMIC SUPPORTS

Section. 1. Campus-Based Employment and Training Program for Students Enrolled in Higher Education. Modifies supplemental nutrition assistance program (SNAP) eligibility for students enrolled in higher education.

Subd. 1. Designation. Requires the Board of Trustees of Minnesota State Colleges and Universities and requests the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota, to submit an application to the commissioner of human services verifying whether each of its institutions meets the requirements to be a campus-based employment and training program that qualifies for the student exemption for SNAP eligibility.

Subd. 2. Student eligibility. Provides which students are eligible to participate in a campus-based employment and training program.

Subd. 3. Guidance. Requires the commissioner of human services, in consultation with the commissioner of higher education, to issue guidance to counties, Tribal Nations, Tribal colleges, and Minnesota public postsecondary institutions that clarifies the state and federal requirements, the application process, how students qualify for a SNAP student exemption, and the SNAP eligibility criteria for eligible students.

Subd. 4. Application. Requires the commissioner of human services, in consultation with the commissioner of higher education, to design an application for institutions to use when applying for the program designation.

Subd. 5. Notice. Requires an institution of higher learning to send a notice at the beginning of each academic semester to eligible students to inform them of their eligibility to participate.

Sec. 2. Definitions. Modifies the definition of “household” for purposes of the FAIM program, to include individuals who share finances and use of a dwelling unit and further clarifies that “sharing finances” does not include sharing a dwelling unit without sharing any other finances.

Sec. 3. Household eligibility; participation. Modifies household eligibility requirements for purposes of the FAIM program, to remove a reference to state or TANF matching funds and replaces a reference to federal eligibility requirements with specified maximum income requirements of 200 percent of the federal poverty guidelines or 50 percent of the area median income.

Sec. 4. Eligible uses of grant money. Allows eligible applicants that receive grant money for the diaper distribution grant program to use up to ten percent for administrative costs.

Sec. 5. Transfer to the Department of Children, Youth, and Families. Provides that the responsibilities for the campus-based employment and training program for students enrolled in higher education must transfer from the commissioner of human services to the commissioner of children, youth, and families and that the commissioner must give notice when the transfer is effective.

ARTICLE 14 HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS

Section 1. Emergency Shelter Needs Analysis for Transgender Adults Experiencing Homelessness. Requires the commissioner of human services to contract with Propel Nonprofits to conduct a needs analysis for emergency shelter serving transgender adults experiencing homelessness and to conduct a site analysis and develop a plan for the shelter. Directs Propel Nonprofits to submit a report to the commissioner on the results of the needs analysis and site analysis by March 1, 2025, and directs the commissioner to submit the report to the legislature within five business days of receipt.

Sec. 2. Pregnant and Parenting Homeless Youth Study. Requires the commissioner of human services to contract with the Wilder Foundation for a study on the statewide numbers of pregnant and parenting homeless youth. Requires the Wilder Foundation to submit a report to the commissioner by December 31, 2025, and for the commissioner to submit that report to the legislature.

Sec. 3. Revival and Reenactment. Revives and reenacts a subdivision that clarifies housing support supplemental service rates and that was mistakenly repealed in the Revisor’s bill during the 2023 legislative session.

Sec. 4. Repealer. Repeals a subdivision in the 2023 Revisor's bill that mistakenly repealed the housing support supplemental service rates subdivision.

ARTICLE 15 CHILD CARE LICENSING

Section 1. Child Care Weighted Risk System. Directs the commissioner of children, youth, and families to develop and implement a child care weighted risk system for child care licensing.

Sec. 2. Child Care Fix-It Ticket. Provides that the child care fix-it ticket section expires upon the implementation of the child care weighted risk system.

Sec. 3. First aid. Removes the requirement that family child care providers must not let their first aid training expire and instead requires them to repeat the training every two years within 90 days of the date the training was previously taken.

Sec. 4. Cardiopulmonary resuscitation. Removes the requirement that family child care providers must not let their CPR training expire and instead requires them to repeat the training every two years within 90 days of the date the training was previously taken.

ARTICLE 16 DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES

Section 1. Statewide hearing loss early education intervention coordinator. Makes conforming changes for when the Department of Children, Youth, and Families administers Part C.

Sec. 2. Children, Youth, and Families Intergovernmental Advisory Committee. Establishes an intergovernmental advisory committee to provide advice, consultation, and recommendations to the commissioner of children, youth, and families on the planning, design, administration, funding, and evaluation of services to children, youth, and families.

Sec. 3. Training on Risk of Sudden Unexpected Infant Death and Abusive Head Trauma for Child Foster Care Providers. Provides requirements for training on risk of sudden unexpected infant death and abusive head trauma for licensed child foster care providers.

Sec. 4. Newborn Hearing Screening Advisory Committee. Makes conforming changes for when the Department of Children, Youth, and Families administers Part C.

Sec. 5. Duties. Clarifies that the ombudsperson for family child care providers must annually report to the commissioner of children, youth, and families rather than the commissioner of human services.

Sec. 6. Access to records. Directs the commissioner of children, youth, and families to provide information on licensing actions issued to family child care providers to the ombudsperson for family child care providers.

Sec. 7. Posting. Clarifies that the commissioner of children, youth, and families, rather than the commissioner of human services, must post information about the ombudsperson for family child care providers on the department's website.

Sec. 8. Application or license fee required, programs exempt from fee. Makes conforming changes to have the licensure of child foster residence settings remain with the commissioner of human services.

Sec. 9. County fees for applications and licensing inspections. Makes conforming changes to have the licensure of child foster residence settings remain with the commissioner of human services.

Sec. 10. Training on Risk of Sudden Unexpected Infant Death and Abusive Head Trauma for Child Foster Care Providers. Makes conforming changes to have the licensure of child foster residence settings remain with the commissioner of human services.

Sec. 11. Delegation of authority to agencies. Makes conforming changes to have the licensure of child foster residence settings remain with the commissioner of human services.

Sec. 12. Child Foster Care Training Requirement; Mental Health Training; Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Training. Makes conforming changes to have the licensure of child foster residence settings remain with the commissioner of human services.

Sec. 13. Ongoing training requirement. Makes conforming changes to have the licensure of child foster residence settings remain with the commissioner of human services.

Sec. 14. Domestic Violence Informational Brochure. Requires the commissioner of human services to work with the commissioner of children, youth, and families to create the domestic violence informational brochure.

Sec. 15. Appropriations from registration and license fee account. Makes conforming changes to have the Opioid Epidemic Response Fund remain with the commissioner of human services.

Sec. 16. Appropriations from settlement account. Makes conforming changes to have the Opioid Epidemic Response Fund remain with the commissioner of human services.

Sec. 17. State agency hearings. Makes conforming changes to enable human services judges to continue to do appeals for areas within the jurisdiction of the commissioner of children, youth, and families rather than duplicate work between two departments. Provides that the commissioner of children, youth, and families has the authority to act on the recommendations of the judges.

Sec. 18. Standard of evidence for maltreatment and disqualification hearings. Makes conforming changes to enable human services judges to continue to do appeals for areas within the jurisdiction of the commissioner of children, youth, and families rather than duplicate work between two departments. Provides that the commissioner of children, youth, and families has the authority to act on the recommendations of the judges.

Sec. 19. Orders of the commissioner of human services. Makes conforming changes to enable human services judges to continue to do appeals for areas within the jurisdiction of the commissioner of children, youth, and families rather than duplicate work between two departments.

Provides that the commissioner of children, youth, and families has the authority to act on the recommendations of the judges.

Sec. 20. Judicial review. Makes conforming changes to enable human services judges to continue to do appeals for areas within the jurisdiction of the commissioner of children, youth, and families rather than duplicate work between two departments. Provides that the commissioner of children, youth, and families has the authority to act on the recommendations of the judges.

Sec. 21. Scope. Makes conforming changes to enable human services judges to continue to do appeals for areas within the jurisdiction of the commissioner of children, youth, and families rather than duplicate work between two departments. Provides that the commissioner of children, youth, and families has the authority to act on the recommendations of the judges.

Sec. 22. Decisions. Makes conforming changes to enable human services judges to continue to do appeals for areas within the jurisdiction of the commissioner of children, youth, and families rather than duplicate work between two departments. Provides that the commissioner of children, youth, and families has the authority to act on the recommendations of the judges.

Sec. 23. Reconsideration. Makes conforming changes to enable human services judges to continue to do appeals for areas within the jurisdiction of the commissioner of children, youth, and families rather than duplicate work between two departments. Provides that the commissioner of children, youth, and families has the authority to act on the recommendations of the judges.

Sec. 24. Combined hearing. Makes conforming changes to enable human services judges to continue to do appeals for areas within the jurisdiction of the commissioner of children, youth, and families rather than duplicate work between two departments. Provides that the commissioner of children, youth, and families has the authority to act on the recommendations of the judges.

Sec. 25. Adult protection grant allocation under Reform 2020. Provides that the requirements of the adult protection grant allocation statute apply to the Reform 2020 adult protection state grants.

Sec. 26. Department of Human Services. Provides for additional transfers from the Department of Human Services to the Department of Children, Youth, and Families.

Sec. 27. Department of Education. Provides for additional transfers from the Department of Education to the Department of Children, Youth, and Families.

Sec. 28. Hearings held by the Department of Human Services. Makes conforming changes to enable human services judges to continue to do appeals for areas within the jurisdiction of the commissioner of children, youth, and families rather than duplicate work between two departments. Provides that the commissioner of children, youth, and families has the authority to act on the recommendations of the judges.

Sec. 29. State agency hearings. Makes conforming changes to enable human services judges to continue to do appeals for areas within the jurisdiction of the commissioner of children, youth, and

families rather than duplicate work between two departments. Provides that the commissioner of children, youth, and families has the authority to act on the recommendations of the judges.

Sec. 30. Orders of the commissioner of children, youth, and families. Makes conforming changes to enable human services judges to continue to do appeals for areas within the jurisdiction of the commissioner of children, youth, and families rather than duplicate work between two departments. Provides that the commissioner of children, youth, and families has the authority to act on the recommendations of the judges.

Sec. 31. Additional powers of commissioner; subpoenas. Makes conforming changes to enable human services judges to continue to do appeals for areas within the jurisdiction of the commissioner of children, youth, and families rather than duplicate work between two departments. Provides that the commissioner of children, youth, and families has the authority to act on the recommendations of the judges.

Sec. 32. Judicial review. Makes conforming changes to enable human services judges to continue to do appeals for areas within the jurisdiction of the commissioner of children, youth, and families rather than duplicate work between two departments. Provides that the commissioner of children, youth, and families has the authority to act on the recommendations of the judges.

Sec. 33. Appeal. Makes conforming changes to enable human services judges to continue to do appeals for areas within the jurisdiction of the commissioner of children, youth, and families rather than duplicate work between two departments. Provides that the commissioner of children, youth, and families has the authority to act on the recommendations of the judges.

Sec. 34. Revisor Instruction. Provides for additional transfers from the Department of Human Services to the Department of Children, Youth, and Families.

Sec. 35. Plan for transfer of clients and records upon closure. Makes conforming changes to section governing a license holder's plan for transfer of clients and records upon closure.

Sec. 36. County fees for applications and licensing inspections. Makes conforming changes to have the licensure of child foster residence settings remain with the commissioner of human services.

Sec. 37. Appeal of multiple sanctions. Makes a conforming change to allow appeals of licensing actions to be made through the provider licensing and reporting hub.

Sec. 38. Delegation of authority to agencies. Makes conforming changes to have the licensure of child foster residence settings remain with the commissioner of human services.

Sec. 39. Maltreatment of minors ongoing training requirement. Makes conforming changes to have the licensure of child foster residence settings remain with the commissioner of human services.

Sec. 40. Child Foster Care Training Requirement; Mental Health Training; Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Training. Makes conforming changes to have the licensure of child foster residence settings remain with the commissioner of human services.

Sec. 41. Revisor Instruction. Makes conforming changes to have the licensure of child foster residence settings remain with the commissioner of human services.

Sec. 42. Revisor Instruction. Provides for additional transfers from the Department of Education to the Department of Children, Youth, and Families.

Sec. 43. Revisor Instruction. Provides for additional transfers from the Department of Human Services to the Department of Children, Youth, and Families.

Sec. 44. Domestic violence informational brochure. Requires the commissioner of children, youth, and families to work with the commissioner of human services to create the domestic violence informational brochure.

Sec. 45. Child Foster Residence Settings to Stay at the Department of Human Services. Makes conforming changes to have the licensure of child foster residence settings remain with the commissioner of human services.

Sec. 46. Direction to the Commissioner of Children, Youth, and Families; Coordination of Services for Children with Disabilities and Mental Health. Requires the commissioner of children, youth, and families to designate a department leader to be responsible for coordination of services and outcomes around children's mental health and for children with or at risk for disabilities within and between the Departments of Human Services and Children, Youth, and Families.

Sec. 47. Repealer. Repeals provisions related to enabling human services judges to continue to do appeals for areas within the jurisdiction of the commissioner of children, youth, and families rather than duplicate work between two departments. Additionally repeals a rule providing for a plan for transfer of records for private child placing agencies.

Sec. 48. Effective Date; Transfer of Responsibilities. Provides the effective date for the transfer of responsibilities to the commissioner of children, youth, and families.

ARTICLE 17

MINNESOTA INDIAN FAMILY PRESERVATION ACT

Section 1. Other applicable law. Amends the policy statement for adoptions to include that provisions of the Minnesota Indian Family Preservation Act (MIFPA) apply in the adoption of an Indian child.

Sec. 2. Compliance with Federal Indian Child Welfare Act and Minnesota Indian Family Preservation Act. Requires that adoption proceedings under chapter 259 that involve an Indian

child are child custody proceedings governed by the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA), by MIFPA, and by chapter 259 when not inconsistent with ICWA and MIFPA.

Sec. 3. Active efforts. Modifies the definition of “active efforts” to require the engagement of the Indian child, the Indian child’s parents, the Indian custodian, the extended family, and the Tribe and requires active efforts to be made in all child placements involving an Indian child.

Sec. 4. Best interests of an Indian child. Makes technical changes to the definition of “best interests of an Indian child.”

Sec. 5. Child placement proceeding. Clarifies that a child placement proceeding under MIFPA is a domestic relations proceeding.

Sec. 6. Child-placing agency. Modifies the definition of “child-placing agency” by adding an Indian custodian as who a child-placing agency provides assistance to. Makes other technical changes.

Sec. 7. Demand. Makes technical changes to the definition of “demand.”

Sec. 8. Extended family member. Provides that, for purposes of the provision of active efforts and foster and permanency placement decisions, the legal parent, guardian, or custodian of an Indian child’s sibling is not an extended family member or relative of the Indian child unless they are independently related to the Indian child or recognized by the Indian child’s Tribe as an extended family member.

Sec. 9. Parent. Makes technical changes to the definition of “parent.”

Sec. 10. Petitioner. Adds the definition of “petitioner” into MIFPA.

Sec. 11. Qualified expert witness. Modifies the definition of “qualified expert witness” by removing the requirement that the witness must have specific knowledge of the Indian child’s Tribe’s culture and customs, by adding a reference to MIFPA, and by replacing the mention of specific child placement proceedings with the term “child placement or permanency proceedings.”

Sec. 12. Tribal court. Makes a technical change to the definition of “Tribal court.”

Sec. 13. Tribal representative. Adds the definition of “Tribal representative” into MIFPA.

Sec. 14. Voluntary foster care placement. Makes technical changes to the definition of “voluntary foster care placement.”

Sec. 15. Temporary emergency jurisdiction of state courts. Requires a petitioner, in addition to a child-placing agency and the court, to ensure that an emergency removal terminates immediately when removal is no longer necessary.

Sec. 16. Emergency proceeding requirements. Requires a court to determine at any court hearing during an emergency proceeding whether the emergency placement or removal is no longer necessary to prevent imminent physical damage or harm to the Indian child.

Sec. 17. Termination of emergency removal or placement. Modifies when an emergency removal or placement ends to include when a court orders placement of an Indian child, rather than placement in foster care.

Sec. 18. Inquiry of Tribal Lineage; Notice to Tribes, Parents, and Indian Custodians; Access to Files. Modifies notice provided to Tribes, parents, and Indian custodians, the inquiry of Tribal lineage, and access to files.

Subd. 1. Inquiry of Tribal lineage. Requires a court, in any child placement proceeding, to inquire at the commencement of the proceedings whether the child has any American Indian heritage or lineage to an Indian Tribe. Also details the process a court must follow if there is reason for the court to believe the child is an Indian child, but the court does not have sufficient evidence to make that determination.

Subd. 2. Notice of services or court proceedings involving an Indian child. Adds petitioners into notice requirements and requires a court to allow appearances by telephone, video conference, or other electronic medium in child placement proceedings. Updates requirements for a child-placing agency or petitioner providing notice to an Indian child's parents, Indian custodian, and Indian child's Tribe in all child placement proceedings except for adoptive or preadoptive placements and what the notice must include.

Subd. 3. Notice of potential preadoptive or adoptive placement. Requires a petitioner, in addition to the child-placing agency, to inform the birth parents of an Indian child of any services available and makes other technical changes.

Subd. 4. Unknown father. Makes conforming changes to "petitioner" and requires notice to be given to the United States Secretary of Interior if the identity or location of an Indian child's Tribe cannot be determined.

Subd. 5. Proof of service of notice upon Tribe or secretary. Makes technical changes.

Subd. 6. Indian Tribe's right of intervention. Contains no changes.

Subd. 6a. Indian Tribe's access to files. Adds "petitioner" into who must fully cooperate with a Tribal social services agency, including access to all files concerning an Indian child.

Sec. 19. Duty to Prevent Out-of-Home Child Placement, Preserve the Child's Family, and Promote Family Reunification; Active Efforts. Modifies active efforts in child placement proceedings and duties to prevent child placement.

Subd. 1. Active efforts. Clarifies that acknowledging traditional helping and healing systems of an Indian child's Tribe and using those systems to help the Indian child and family as part of active efforts is required regardless of whether the Indian child's Tribe has intervened in the proceedings. Removes language stating that active efforts are not required to prevent voluntary out-of-home placement.

Subd. 2a. Required findings that active efforts were provided. Prohibits a court from ordering a child placement, termination of parental rights, guardianship to the commissioner of human services, or temporary or permanent change in custody of an Indian child unless the court finds active efforts were made to preserve the Indian child's family. Describes what the active efforts must entail and requires the court to make certain findings in determining whether active efforts were made.

Subd. 2b. Adoptions. Allows a court to find active efforts were made for adoptions under chapter 259 using different findings than other child placement proceedings.

Sec. 20. Indian Tribe jurisdiction. Provides that child-placing agencies and the courts shall defer to a Tribal determination of the Tribe's exclusive jurisdiction when an Indian child resides or is domiciled within the reservation of that Tribe.

Sec. 21. Transfer of proceedings. Requires a court, absent good cause to the contrary, to transfer a child placement proceeding to the jurisdiction of a Tribe upon a motion or request by the Indian child's parent, Indian custodian, or Tribe, and provides when such motion or request can be made.

Sec. 22. Good cause to deny transfer. Makes changes to conform with the changes made in subdivision 4.

Sec. 23. Notice. Removes the reference to foster care and replaces it with "out of the care of the Indian child's parent or Indian custodian" when referring to providing notice for a voluntary placement.

Sec. 24. Court requirements for consent. Requires a valid consent to adoption to be executed in writing and recorded before a judge and requires the judge to find that the terms of consent were fully explained and fully understood.

Sec. 25. Collateral attack; vacation of decree and return of custody; limitations. Makes technical changes.

Sec. 26. Active efforts. Makes technical and conforming changes.

Sec. 27. Placement preference. Makes a conforming change.

Sec. 28. Identification of extended family members. Requires a child-placing agency or petitioner, when ensuring active efforts are made, to explore placement with extended family members and ensure the Indian child's relationship with the extended family and Tribe.

Sec. 29. Appointment of counsel. Modifies the appointment of counsel in child placement proceedings that involve an Indian child by clarifying which proceedings the Indian child's parent or Indian custodian have the right to be represented by an attorney. Provides when a court may appoint counsel for an Indian child under ten years of age and requires the court to appoint any counsel prior to the first hearing on the petition. Allows for the appointment of counsel at any stage

of the proceedings if the court deems it necessary. Prohibits the appointment of a public defender unless such appointment is authorized by Minnesota Statutes, section 611.14.

Sec. 30. Tribal access to files and other documents. Makes conforming changes.

Sec. 31. Participation of Indian child's Tribe in court proceedings. Allows a Tribe that an Indian child may be eligible for membership in to be a party to the child placement proceeding without needing to file a motion. Allows an Indian child's Tribe to appear remotely at hearings and file documents with the court using an alternative method and exempts the Tribe from filing fees and pro hac vice requirements.

Sec. 32. Qualified expert witness and evidentiary requirements. Makes technical and conforming changes and updates the term "involuntary foster care placement proceeding" to "involuntary placement proceeding."

Sec. 33. Least restrictive setting. Modifies when an Indian child is required to be placed in the least restrictive setting to include when an Indian child is removed from an Indian custodian, rather than just the Indian child's parent.

Sec. 34. Tribe's order of placement recognized. Requires a petitioner to also recognize the Indian child's Tribe's order of placement, rather than just the child-placing agency and court.

Sec. 35. Placement preferences for temporary proceedings. Updates the subdivision title from "placement options" to "placement preferences for temporary proceedings" and makes a technical change.

Sec. 36. Placement preferences for permanent proceedings. Updates the subdivision title from "placement preference" to "placement preferences for permanent proceedings" and makes a technical change.

Sec. 37. Suitability of placement. Requires a child-placing agency and petitioner, rather than the county, to defer to the judgment of an Indian child's Tribe as to the suitability of a placement.

Sec. 38. Exceptions to placement preferences. Requires a petitioner, in addition to the child-placing agency and the court, to give weight to a parent's desire for anonymity in applying placement preferences.

Sec. 39. Factors considered in determining placement. Makes a technical change.

Sec. 40. Improper removal. Modifies the description of improper removal to also include when custody of an Indian child was removed improperly from an Indian custodian.

Sec. 41. Invalidation. Updates the language from "out-of-home placement" to "child placement." Requires the court, in finding that a violation of MIFPA occurred, to determine whether the Indian child's parent or Indian custodian was assessed placement costs and order reimbursement of those costs. Also requires the court to determine whether sanctions, reasonable costs, and attorney fees

should be imposed on a party who willfully, intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly violates MIFPA.

Sec. 42. Return of custody following adoption. Allows an Indian custodian, in addition to the county attorney, Indian child, Indian child’s Tribe, or an Indian child’s parent, to file a petition for return of custody and makes technical changes.

Sec. 43. Placement Records. Makes technical changes.

Sec. 44. Court decree information. Requires court decree information to also include the Indian custodian and makes conforming changes.

Sec. 45. Primary support grants. Makes technical changes.

Sec. 46. Compliance grants. Makes technical changes.

Sec. 47. Purposes. Makes technical changes.

Sec. 48. Types of services. Makes technical changes.

Sec. 49. Final report. Requires final evaluation reports to be submitted to the commissioner and requires the commissioner to compile these reports and provide the compiled report to each Tribe and makes a technical change.

Sec. 50. Relative of an Indian child. Modifies the definition of “relative of an Indian child” in the juvenile safety and placement chapter to clarify that a relative of an Indian child must be an extended family member as defined under MIFPA.

Sec. 51. Hearing and release requirements. Requires an Indian child to be placed according to the placement preferences under MIFPA when a court has ordered an emergency child placement.

Sec. 52. Child in Voluntary Foster Care for Treatment. Removes the requirement that chapter 260D must comply with ICWA and MIFPA.

Sec. 53. Compliance with Federal Indian Child Welfare Act and Minnesota Indian Family Preservation Act. Provides that proceedings under chapter 260D concerning an Indian child are child custody proceedings governed by ICWA, by MIFPA, and by chapter 260D when not inconsistent with ICWA or MIFPA.

Sec. 54. Compliance with Federal Indian Child Welfare Act and Minnesota Indian Family Preservation Act. Provides that proceedings under chapter 260E that involve an Indian child are child custody proceedings governed by ICWA, by MIFPA, and by chapter 260E when not inconsistent with ICWA or MIFPA.

Sec. 55. Compliance with Federal Indian Child Welfare Act and Minnesota Indian Family Preservation Act. Provides that proceedings under chapter 524 that involve an Indian child are

child custody proceedings governed by ICWA, by MIFPA, and by chapter 524 when not inconsistent with ICWA or MIFPA.

Sec. 56. Repealer. Repeals the definition of local social services agency.

ARTICLE 18 CHILDREN AND FAMILIES POLICY

Section 1. Income. Updates the definition of “income” for the purposes of the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) to include income under Minnesota Rules, part 3400.0170.

Sec. 2. Fair hearing allowed for providers. Updates when a provider caring for children receiving child care assistance can request a fair hearing and allows providers to send or receive notices through the provider hub.

Sec. 3. Notice to providers. Allows providers to receive notices through the provider hub and clarifies and defines specific child care provider appeal notification requirements when a provider disagrees with a payment amount.

Sec. 4. Notice. Makes a conforming change to allow notices to be sent through the provider hub.

Sec. 5. Exemptions from immunizations. States that subdivision 3, paragraph (d), which allows immunizations to not be required if a notarized statement detailing the conscientiously held beliefs of a parent or guardian is submitted to a school or child care facility, does not apply to a child enrolling or enrolled in a child care center or family child care program that adopts an immunization policy under subdivision 3b.

Sec. 6. Child care programs. Allows child care centers and family child care providers to adopt a policy that prohibits a child over two months of age from enrolling or remaining enrolled in the center or program if the child isn’t immunized pursuant to subdivision 1 or 2 and is not exempt from immunization under subdivision 3, paragraph (a), (c), (e), or (f).

Sec. 7. System components. Adds a July 1, 2026, effective date to the Parent Aware one-star rating.

Sec. 8. Release of original birth record. Allows the state registrar to request assistance from the commissioner of human services to verify information in order to release original birth records.

Sec. 9. Birth Parent Contact Preference Form. Allows the commissioner of health to request assistance from the commissioner of human services to verify information as needed to match the contact preference form to the original birth record.

Sec. 10. Use of data. Allows law enforcement to disclose the status of an individual as a predatory offender to a child protection worker for purposes of doing a family assessment or investigation.

Sec. 11. Licensing moratorium. Removes child foster residence settings with Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) certifications from the current licensing moratorium and requires license revocation if those settings should the FFPSA certification be rescinded.

Sec. 12. Administrative disqualification of child care providers caring for children receiving child care assistance. Allows providers to send and receive notice through the provider hub.

Sec. 13. Family violence. Amends the definition of “family violence” within chapter 256J (Minnesota Family Investment Program) by removing “imminent” from “the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, bodily injury, or assault.”

Sec. 14. Expedited issuance of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits. Removes outdated and incomplete language regarding expedited issuance of supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits with chapter 256J (MFIP).

Sec. 15. Assigning a successor relative custodian for a child’s Northstar kinship assistance. Clarifies when continued payment of Northstar kinship assistance may occur.

Sec. 16. Caregiver requests for reassessments. Removes reference to benefit agreement expiration dates.

Sec. 17. Payments. Clarifies extended foster care payments may be paid to a youth or to a vendor when a youth resides in an unlicensed supervised independent living setting.

Sec. 18. Effect of benefit on other aid. Adds “youth” to payment procedures for extended foster care in supervised independent living settings.

Sec. 19. Overpayments. Adds “youth” to payment procedures for extended foster care in supervised independent living settings.

Sec. 20. Correct and true information. Adds “youth” to payment procedures for extended foster care in supervised independent living settings.

Sec. 21. Termination notice for caregiver or youth. Adds “youth” to payment procedures for extended foster care in supervised independent living settings.

Sec. 22. Rental income. Clarifies that rental income is subject to the requirements of self-employment earnings under chapter 256P, which governs economic assistance program eligibility and verification.

Sec. 23. Income inclusions. Removes rental income from the definition of unearned income for the purposes of economic assistance program eligibility and verification.

Sec. 24. Disclosure to birth parents and adoptive parents. Requires an agency’s disclosure statement to include a statement regarding the right of an adopted person to request and obtain a copy of the adopted person’s original birth record.

Sec. 25. Supportive parenting services for parents with disabilities. Prohibits an agency or court from denying a prospective parent the ability to proceed with an adoption due to the prospective parent's disability. A person who raises the prospective parent's disability as an issue must prove by clear and convincing evidence that specific behaviors of the prospective parent would endanger the health or safety of the child. If the burden is met, the prospective parent must have an opportunity to demonstrate how supportive parenting services may alleviate concerns. A court must make specific written findings if the court denies or limits the right of a prospective parent with a disability to adopt a child.

Sec. 26. Content. Allows the commissioner of human services to share certain information from adoption records upon request from the commissioner of health or state registrar.

Sec. 27. Services provided. Requires an agency to complete a search request within six months.

Sec. 28. Siblings. Removes the requirement that siblings must be genetically related for an adult to obtain information about their siblings who were adopted or under the guardianship of the commissioner of human services.

Sec. 29. Birth parent identifying information. Clarifies that identifying information related to birth parents will be provided to the extent the information is available.

Sec. 30. Confidentiality. Aligns the age at which an adopted person is able to receive assistance from agencies with the age throughout Minnesota Statutes, section 259.83.

Sec. 31. Child in need of protection or services. Amends the definition of "child in need of protection or services" to clarify that a child is not considered to be without proper parental care based solely on the disability of the child's parent, guardian, or custodian.

Sec. 32. Supportive parenting services. Prohibits a person or agency from filing a child in need of protection or services petition based on a parent's disability. The petitioner must demonstrate that the child is in need of protection or services based on specific behaviors of the parent or a household member. If the petition makes the required showing, the court or local agency must offer supportive parenting services to the parent with disability. The court must make specific findings if the court removes the child from a parent's home.

Sec. 33. Case plan. Modifies case plan requirements for when a child is ordered into the care of a parent or into foster care and not into the care of a parent.

Sec. 34. Court Review of Disposition. Requires a court to review a child protective services plan every 90 days if the court orders a child into the home of a parent under the protective supervision of a responsible social services agency or child-placing agency.

Sec. 35. Subjects. Modifies responsible social services agency access to criminal and maltreatment history for relatives being considered for foster care placement.

Sec. 36. Out-of-home placement; plan. Requires a responsible social services agency to provide a parent or guardian with a summary of the out-of-home placement plan before the plan is signed.

Sec. 37. Placement decisions based on best interests of the child. Clarifies that for adoptive placements in a related or unrelated home, the home must meet the requirements of Minnesota Statutes, section 260C.611. Prohibits a child in foster care from being placed in an unlicensed emergency relative placement or licensed family foster home when the responsible social services agency knows there is a permanent disqualification to child foster care licensure.

Sec. 38. Voluntary and involuntary. Removes the ability of a court to terminate parental rights due to a parent's failure to financially support their child.

Sec. 39. Transfer of permanent legal and physical custody. Distinguishes the process to transfer permanent legal and physical custody to a parent and the process to transfer to a relative. Provides the requirements that need to be met in order for the transfer of permanent legal and physical custody to a relative to occur. Provides what a petition for transfer of permanent legal and physical custody to a relative must include and what determinations must be made.

Sec. 40. Review hearings. Prohibits an adoption from being finalized when a termination of parental rights appeal is made.

Sec. 41. Motion and hearing to order adoptive placement. Prohibits a court from finalizing an adoption when a termination of parental rights appeal is pending.

Sec. 42. Adoption Study required. Allows the commissioner of human services to allow the use of an existing child foster care home study associated with a current license, even if the commissioner issued a sanction or order of conditional license within the last three years, if the commissioner determines it to be in the child's best interests.

Sec. 43. Adoptive placement decisions. Requires the responsible social services agency to immediately notify the commissioner of human services if the agency learns of any new or previously undisclosed criminal or maltreatment information involving the adoptive placement of a child under the guardianship of the commissioner.

Sec. 44. Duties. Provides that for a child who is under the guardianship of the commissioner of human services, the commissioner has a duty to review new or previously undisclosed criminal or maltreatment information that may impact the health, safety, or well-being of a child subject to a fully executed adoption placement agreement.

Sec. 45. Threatened injury. Modifies the definition of "threatened injury" within the child maltreatment reporting chapter by adding "parent."

Sec. 46. Expedited issuance of SNAP benefits. Removes outdated and incomplete language regarding expedited issuance of supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits.

Sec. 47. Parents with disabilities. Prohibits a court from denying or restricting parenting time or custody based on a parent’s disability. A party who raises the parent’s disability as an issue must prove by clear and convincing evidence that specific behaviors of the parent would endanger the health or safety of the child. If the burden is met, the parent must have an opportunity to demonstrate how supportive parenting services may alleviate concerns. The court may require the use of supportive parenting services to facilitate parenting time and must make specific written findings in the event of a denial or restriction of custody or visitation for a parent with a disability.

ARTICLE 19 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES POLICY

Section 1. Licensing data. Adds a certification or license holder’s email address as public data and exempts family child foster care from this requirement.

Sec. 2. Children’s Records. Requires a certification holder to maintain a record for each child enrolled in the certification holder’s program and provides what the record must contain.

Sec. 3. Annual or annually; family child care and family child foster care. Adds references to family child care and family child foster care training into the definition of “annually.”

Sec. 4. Adoption agency; additional requirements. Requires an individual or organization applying for a license to place children for adoption to submit a financial review completed by an accountant, rather than a certified audit.

Sec. 5. Reusable water bottles or cups. Allows a child care center to provide drinking water to a child in a reusable water bottle if the center allows the child’s parent or legal guardian to bring the water bottle or cup home.

Sec. 6. Electronic checklist use. Requires private agency staff, in addition to county staff, to use the commissioner’s electronic licensing checklist.

Sec. 7. Door to attached garage. Updates requirements for doors attached to garage for family child care providers.

Sec. 8. Stairways. Updates stairway requirements for family child care providers to comply with state fire code.

Sec. 9. Child care centers; risk reduction plan. Requires child care centers to include the supervision of preschool children when using a private restroom in the risk reduction plan.

Sec. 10. Child care background study subject. Adds an authorized agent in a license-exempt certified child care center into the definition of “child care background study subject.”

Sec. 11. Procedure; maltreatment and state licensing agency data. Requires the court to submit requests for maltreatment and state licensing agency data checks to the commissioner of human services for guardians and conservators who are in forma pauperis status.

Sec. 12. Juvenile court records. Removes obsolete language and removes a reference to Minnesota Statutes, section 245C.03, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), to allow the commissioner of human services to receive juvenile court records for unlicensed programs.

Sec. 13. Guardians and conservators. Requires the court to pay the background study fee for an applicant who has been granted in forma pauperis status.

Sec. 14. Reporting of Suspected Fraudulent Activity. Requires the name of a reporter of alleged financial misconduct be kept confidential.

Sec. 15. Infant. Defines “infant” for purposes of certified license-exempt child care centers.

Sec. 16. Preschooler. Defines “preschooler” for purposes of certified license-exempt child care centers.

Sec. 17. School-age child. Defines “school-age child” for purposes of certified license-exempt child care centers.

Sec. 18. Toddler. Defines “toddler” for purposes of certified license-exempt child care centers.

Sec. 19. Correction order and conditional certification requirements. Allows the commissioner to issue a conditional certification if a certified license-exempt child care center fails to comply with a law or rule and provides what the conditional order must state.

Sec. 20. Reconsideration request. Allows a certification holder to ask the commissioner to reconsider a conditional certification.

Sec. 21. Staffing requirements. Requires a director to designate a staff person to fulfill the director’s responsibilities when the director is absent.

Sec. 22. Maximum group size. Makes conforming changes to include the definitions of “infant,” “toddler,” “preschooler,” and “school-age child.”

Sec. 23. Ratios. Makes conforming changes to include the definitions of “infant,” “toddler,” “preschooler,” and “school-age child.”

Sec. 24. First aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation. Updates first aid and CPR training requirements for the director, staff persons, substitutes, and volunteers in a certified license-exempt child care center.

Sec. 25. Child development. Updates child development and learning training requirements for the director, staff persons, substitutes, and volunteers in a certified license-exempt child care center.

Sec. 26. Nonmaltreatment mistake. Modifies the instances when a nonmaltreatment mistake occurs.

Sec. 27. Family child foster care annual program evaluation. Requires electronic licensing inspection checklist information be utilized upon implementation of a continuous license process for family child foster care.

Sec. 28. Licensed child-placing agency personnel requirements. Requires a licensed child-placing agency to have an individual designated on staff who supervises the agency's casework and provides what that must include. Provides what the individual's qualifications must be and allows the commissioner of children, youth, and families to grant a variance.

Sec. 29. Direction to Commissioner of Human Services; Family Child Foster Care Continuous Licenses. Requires the commissioner of human services to develop a continuous license process for family child foster care licenses.

Sec. 30. Repealer. Repeals Minnesota Rules, parts 9502.0425, subparts 5 (occupancy separations) and 10 (stairways); and 9545.0805, subpart 1 (supervision by a licensed independent social worker or independent clinical social worker).

ARTICLE 20 MISCELLANEOUS

Section 1. Federal reimbursement for administrative costs. Requires the commissioner of management and budget to include the amounts of federal reimbursement for administrative costs for the Departments of Human Services and Children, Youth, and Families in the forecast as an expenditure reduction.

Sec. 2. Expiration. Corrects a drafting error from the 2023 legislative session for the expiration date of the homeless youth cash stipend pilot project.