

2015 -- H 5137

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2015

A N A C T

RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES -- CHILD CARE STATE SUBSIDIES

Introduced By: Representative Anastasia P. Williams

Date Introduced: January 15, 2015

Referred To: House Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 40-6.2-1.1 of the General Laws in Chapter 40-6.2 entitled "Child
2 Care-State Subsidies" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **40-6.2-1.1. Rates established.** -- (a) Subject to the payment limitations in section (b), the
4 maximum reimbursement rates to be paid by the departments of human services and children,
5 youth and families for licensed child care centers and certified family-child care providers shall
6 be based on the following schedule of the 75th percentile of the 2002 weekly market rates
7 adjusted for the average of the 75th percentile of the 2002 and the 2004 weekly market rates:

8 LICENSED CHILD CARE CENTERS	75 th PERCENTILE OF WEEKLY MARKET RATE
9 INFANT	\$182.00
10 PRESCHOOL	\$150.00
11 SCHOOL-AGE	\$135.00
12 CERTIFIED FAMILY	75 th PERCENTILE OF WEEKLY MARKET RATE
13 CHILD CARE PROVIDERS	
14 INFANT	\$150.00
15 PRESCHOOL	\$150.00
16 SCHOOL-AGE	\$135.00

17 (b) The department shall pay child care providers based on the lesser of the applicable
18 rate specified in subsection (a), or the lowest rate actually charged by the provider to any of its
19 public or private child care customers with respect to each of the rate categories, infant, preschool

1 and school-age.

2 (c) By June 30, 2004 and biennially thereafter, the department of labor and training shall
3 conduct an independent survey or certify an independent survey of the then current weekly
4 market rates for child care in Rhode Island and shall forward such weekly market rate survey to
5 the department of human services. The departments of human services and labor and training will
6 jointly determine the survey criteria including, but not limited to, rate categories and sub-
7 categories. The 75th percentile of weekly market rates in the table in subsection (a) shall be
8 adjusted by the surveys conducted under this subsection, beginning January 1, 2006 and for the
9 purposes of this section, and until adjusted in accordance with this subsection, the 75th percentile
10 of weekly market rate shall be the average of the 2002 and 2004 weekly market rate surveys.

11 (d) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, beginning July 1, 2015, the
12 weekly rates paid by the department of human services for infants, preschool, and school-age
13 children shall be increased by forty-two dollars (\$42.00).

14 ~~(d)~~(e) In order to expand the accessibility and availability of quality child care, the
15 department of human services is authorized to establish by regulation alternative or incentive
16 rates of reimbursement for quality enhancements, innovative or specialized child care and
17 alternative methodologies of child care delivery, including non-traditional delivery systems and
18 collaborations.

19 ~~(e)~~(f) On or before January 1, 2007, all child care providers have the option to be paid
20 every two (2) weeks and have the option of automatic direct deposit and/or electronic funds
21 transfer of reimbursement payments.

22 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

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- 1 This act would increase the state subsidies for child care services by forty-two dollars
- 2 (\$42.00) per week.
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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