

2015 -- H 5554

=====
LC001482
=====

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: Representatives Tobon, Melo, Abney, Coughlin, and Solomon

Date Introduced: February 25, 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	75th
9	CHILD CARE	PERCENTILE
10	CENTERS	OF WEEKLY
11		MARKET RATE
12	INFANT	\$182.00
13	PRESCHOOL	\$150.00
14	SCHOOL-AGE	\$135.00
15	CERTIFIED	75th
16	FAMILY	PERCENTILE
17	CHILD CARE	OF WEEKLY
18	PROVIDERS	MARKET RATE
19	INFANT	\$150.00

1	PRESCHOOL	\$150.00
2	SCHOOL-AGE	\$135.00

3 (b) The department shall pay child care providers based on the lesser of the applicable
4 rate specified in subsection (a), or the lowest rate actually charged by the provider to any of its
5 public or private child care customers with respect to each of the rate categories, infant, preschool
6 and school-age.

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

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

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

24 (f) Notwithstanding any other provision of the general laws to the contrary, beginning
25 July 1, 2016, the reimbursement rates for any licensed child care center or certified family child
26 care provider reimbursed pursuant to this chapter shall be compensated at a higher rate than the
27 current payments administered pursuant to chapter 6.6 of title 40 "quality family child care act";
28 provided that the licensed child care center or certified family child care provider has received
29 and maintained a valid national child care accreditation as determined by the director.

30 (g) Reimbursement rates provided pursuant to § 40-6.2-1.1(f) shall be determined by the
31 director of the department of human services.

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

=====
LC001482
=====

EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

A N A C T
RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES -- CHILD CARE-STATE SUBSIDIES

1 This act would provide a higher rate of reimbursement to certain licensed child care
2 providers or centers who have a valid National Child Care Accreditation.

3 This act would take effect upon passage.

=====
LC001482
=====