

HOUSE BILL NO. 89

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES COULOMBE, Armstrong, Fields, Dibert, Story

Introduced: 2/27/23

Referred: Health and Social Services, Finance

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to the day care assistance program and the child care grant program;**
2 **and providing for an effective date."**

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

4 * **Section 1.** AS 47.25.001(a) is amended to read:

5 (a) The department shall

6 (1) implement and administer a program to assist in providing day care
7 for the children of low and moderate income families according to the requirements of
8 AS 47.25.001 - 47.25.095;

9 (2) establish standards of eligibility for day care benefits; **the**
10 **standards must provide that the maximum monthly household income allowed**
11 **for a family to participate in the child care assistance program is 300 percent of**
12 **the federal poverty line for the state, adjusted for family size;**

13 (3) contract for the care of children of eligible families;

14 (4) establish procedures to periodically review the needs of families

1 receiving day care benefits;

2 (5) provide notification to the local government body of the request for
3 a contract with a day care facility;

4 (6) establish an electronic application for assistance and allow an
5 applicant to submit an application in electronic format or in other formats required by
6 state and federal law; the electronic application must inform an applicant that a false
7 statement made on the application will be investigated and is punishable under
8 AS 11.56.210.

9 * **Sec. 2.** AS 47.25.071(c) is amended to read:

10 (c) A grant under (a) of this section **shall be calculated based on the actual**
11 **average cost of providing child care at a child care facility each** [MAY NOT
12 EXCEED \$50 PER] month for each child the child care facility cares for, or for each
13 full-time equivalent, as determined by the department. The grant shall be adjusted on a
14 geographic basis by the same factor as funding for a school district is adjusted in
15 AS 14.17.460.

16 * **Sec. 3.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
17 read:

18 CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT FUND PLAN FEDERAL APPROVAL. To
19 the extent necessary to implement this Act, the Department of Health shall amend and submit
20 for federal approval the state plan for the day care assistance program consistent with
21 AS 47.25.001(a), as amended by sec. 1 of this Act, and the child care grant program
22 consistent with AS 47.25.071(c), as amended by sec. 2 of this Act.

23 * **Sec. 4.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
24 read:

25 CONDITIONAL EFFECT; NOTIFICATION. (a) This Act takes effect only if, on or
26 before January 1, 2024, the United States Department of Health and Human Services

27 (1) approves the amendments to the state plan for day care assistance
28 eligibility made by AS 47.25.001(a), as amended by sec. 1 of this Act, and child care grant
29 coverage made by AS 47.25.071(c), as amended by sec. 2 of this Act; or

30 (2) determines that approval of the amendments to the state plan for the day
31 care assistance program and child care grant program is not necessary.

1 (b) The commissioner of health shall notify the revisor of statutes in writing within 30
2 days after the United States Department of Health and Human Services approves amendments
3 to the state plan or determines that approval is not necessary under (a)(1) or (2) of this section.

4 * **Sec. 5.** If this Act takes effect, it takes effect on the day after the date the United States
5 Department of Health and Human Services approves the corresponding amendment to the
6 state plan or determines that approval is not necessary.