

AMENDMENTS TO LB838

Introduced by Kolterman, 24.

1 1. Strike the original section and insert the following new section:

2 Section 1. (1) For purposes of this section:

3 (a) Child care or education program means any of the following:

4 (i) A child care program licensed under the Child Care Licensing Act
5 which serves children from birth to kindergarten and participates in the
6 Step Up to Quality Child Care Act;

7 (ii) A prekindergarten service or program established pursuant to
8 section 79-1104;

9 (iii) A Head Start program pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 9831 et seq., as
10 such sections existed on January 1, 2022; or

11 (iv) An Early Head Start Program pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 9840a et
12 seq., as such sections existed on January 1, 2022;

13 (b) Full-time employee means an individual employed to work thirty
14 or more hours each week;

15 (c) Health insurance deductible means the amount required to be paid
16 out of pocket before the health insurance provider begins to pay the
17 costs associated with treatment; and

18 (d) Health insurance premium means all money paid as a condition of
19 receiving health insurance coverage from a health insurance provider.

20 (2) The State Department of Education shall create a program to
21 support the early childhood workforce. Support provided by the program
22 may include, but is not limited to, paying for all or part of the
23 following:

24 (a) Health insurance premiums;

25 (b) Health insurance deductibles; or

26 (c) Other expenses related to health insurance.

27 (3) The following individuals are eligible to receive support from

1 the program described in subsection (2) of this section:

2 (a) Any full-time employee at an entity that provides child care or
3 education programs for children; and

4 (b) Any self-employed individual who provides a child care or
5 education program for children.

6 (4) The department may contract with any third party to carry out
7 this section.

8 (5) It is the intent of the Legislature:

9 (a) To appropriate fifteen million dollars from the General Fund
10 each fiscal year to the State Department of Education, which shall only
11 be used for the purpose of carrying out this section;

12 (b) That any money appropriated to carry out this section that is
13 not utilized in the fiscal year for which it is appropriated shall lapse
14 and not be reappropriated for the following fiscal year; and

15 (c) That any unused appropriation of money from a prior fiscal year
16 shall not affect the amount appropriated in a subsequent fiscal year.