

AMENDMENTS TO LB329

(Amendments to Standing Committee amendments, AM1183)

Introduced by Howard, 9.

1 1. Strike sections 1 and 2 and insert the following new sections:

2 Section 1. Section 68-1206, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2019, is
3 amended to read:

4 68-1206 (1) The Department of Health and Human Services shall
5 administer the program of social services in this state. The department
6 may contract with other social agencies for the purchase of social
7 services at rates not to exceed those prevailing in the state or the cost
8 at which the department could provide those services. The statutory
9 maximum payments for the separate program of aid to dependent children
10 shall apply only to public assistance grants and shall not apply to
11 payments for social services. As part of the provision of social services
12 authorized by section 68-1202, the department shall participate in the
13 federal child care assistance program under 42 U.S.C. 618, as such
14 section existed on January 1, 2013, and provide child care assistance to
15 families with incomes up to one hundred twenty-five percent of the
16 federal poverty level for FY2013-14 and one hundred thirty percent of the
17 federal poverty level for FY2014-15 and each fiscal year thereafter.

18 (2) As part of the provision of social services authorized by this
19 section and section 68-1202, the department shall participate in the
20 federal Child Care Subsidy program. In determining ongoing eligibility
21 for this program, ten percent of a household's gross earned income shall
22 be disregarded after twelve continuous months on the program and at each
23 subsequent redetermination. In determining ongoing eligibility, if a
24 family's income exceeds one hundred thirty percent of the federal poverty
25 level, the family shall receive transitional child care assistance
26 through the remainder of the family's eligibility period or until the

1 family's income exceeds eighty-five percent of the state median income
2 for a family of the same size as reported by the United States Bureau of
3 the Census, whichever occurs first. When the family's eligibility period
4 ends, the family shall continue to be eligible for transitional child
5 care assistance if the family's income is below two hundred ~~one hundred~~
6 ~~eighty-five~~ percent of the federal poverty level. The family shall
7 receive transitional child care assistance through the remainder of the
8 transitional eligibility period or until the family's income exceeds
9 eighty-five percent of the state median income for a family of the same
10 size as reported by the United States Bureau of the Census, whichever
11 occurs first. The amount of such child care assistance shall be based on
12 a cost-shared plan between the recipient family and the state and shall
13 be based on a sliding-scale methodology. A recipient family may be
14 required to contribute a percentage of such family's gross income for
15 child care that is no more than the cost-sharing rates in the
16 transitional child care assistance program as of January 1, 2015, for
17 those no longer eligible for cash assistance as provided in section
18 68-1724. Initial program eligibility standards shall not be impacted by
19 the provisions of this subsection.

20 (3) In determining the rate or rates to be paid by the department
21 for child care as defined in section 43-2605, the department shall adopt
22 a fixed-rate schedule for the state or a fixed-rate schedule for an area
23 of the state applicable to each child care program category of provider
24 as defined in section 71-1910 which may claim reimbursement for services
25 provided by the federal Child Care Subsidy program, except that the
26 department shall not pay a rate higher than that charged by an individual
27 provider to that provider's private clients. The schedule may provide
28 separate rates for care for infants, for children with special needs,
29 including disabilities or technological dependence, or for other
30 individual categories of children. The schedule may also provide tiered
31 rates based upon a quality scale rating of step three or higher under the

1 Step Up to Quality Child Care Act. The schedule shall be effective on
2 October 1 of every year and shall be revised annually by the department.

3 Sec. 2. Original section 68-1206, Revised Statutes Supplement,
4 2019, is repealed.