

2017 -- S 0447

LC001967

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2017

A N A C T

RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES -- CHILD CARE--STATE SUBSIDIES

Introduced By: Senators Calkin, DiPalma, Coyne, and Seveney

Date Introduced: March 02, 2017

Referred To: Senate 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.**

4 (a) Through June 30, 2015, subject to the payment limitations in section (b), the  
5 maximum reimbursement rates to be paid by the departments of human services and children,  
6 youth and families for licensed child care centers and certified family-child care providers shall  
7 be based on the following schedule of the 75th percentile of the 2002 weekly market rates  
8 adjusted for the average of the 75th percentile of the 2002 and the 2004 weekly market rates:

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

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

4           Effective July 1, 2015, subject to the payment limitations in subsection (b), the maximum  
5 reimbursement rates to be paid by the departments of human services and children, youth and  
6 families for licensed child care centers and certified family-child care providers shall be based on  
7 the above schedule of the 75th percentile of the 2002 weekly market rates adjusted for the  
8 average of the 75th percentile of the 2002 and the 2004 weekly market rates. These rates shall be  
9 increased by ten dollars (\$10.00) per week for infant/toddler care provided by certified family-  
10 child care providers and license-exempt providers and then the rates for all providers for all age  
11 groups shall be increased by three percent (3%).

12           Effective July 1, 2017, the above rates established by the July 1, 2015 rate adjustment, for  
13 all providers and all age groups, shall be increased by five percent (5%).

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

18           (c) By June 30, 2004 and biennially through June 30, 2014, the department of labor and  
19 training shall conduct an independent survey or certify an independent survey of the then current  
20 weekly market rates for child care in Rhode Island and shall forward such weekly market rate  
21 survey to the department of human services. The next survey shall be conducted by June 30,  
22 2016, and triennially thereafter. The departments of human services and labor and training will  
23 jointly determine the survey criteria including, but not limited to, rate categories and sub-  
24 categories.

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

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

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

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF

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

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- 1 This act would increase the child care provider reimbursement rate by five percent (5%).
- 2 This act would take effect upon passage.

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