

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

# HOUSE BILL NO. 1095

## 94TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES DONNELLY (Sponsor), ROBB, ZWEIFEL, YAEGER, STORCH,  
CURLS, LOW (39) AND BAKER (25) (Co-sponsors).

Read 1st time March 8, 2007 and copies ordered printed.

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

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### AN ACT

To amend chapter 210, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to quality rating system for child care facilities.

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*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:*

Section A. Chapter 210, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be  
2 known as section 210.205, to read as follows:

210.205. 1. By January 1, 2008, the department of social services and the  
2 department of health and senior services, in collaboration with the department of  
3 elementary and secondary education, shall develop a voluntary quality rating system for  
4 child care facilities and early childhood programs operated in this state. Such ratings shall  
5 be built upon Missouri's current system of licensing and regulation. The base level of the  
6 rating system shall be licensing, and the highest level of the rating system shall be  
7 accreditation by a state or nationally recognized accrediting agency. The departments of  
8 social services and health and senior services shall utilize existing models developed from  
9 quality rating system pilots developed in Missouri.

10 2. The quality rating system shall:

11 (1) Provide information for consumers and parents to evaluate and select high  
12 quality early childhood programs;

13 (2) Create an accountability system for policymakers and those who fund early  
14 childhood programs;

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

15           (3) Guide providers through a system of ever increasing levels of quality with  
16 specific outcomes.

17           3. When fifty percent of all child care facilities and early childhood programs have  
18 been so rated, the coordinating board for early childhood, established under section  
19 210.102, shall have developed a plan for a tiered system of reimbursement for child care  
20 subsidies based on the quality rating system established under this section. The plan shall  
21 be submitted to the general assembly with recommendations for implementation of the  
22 reimbursement system.

23           4. The departments of social services and health and senior services shall be  
24 responsible for:

25           (1) Providing technical assistance to child care or early childhood providers for  
26 quality improvements to undergo evaluation under the quality rating system. To the extent  
27 feasible, the departments shall use existing organizations to provide the technical assistance  
28 to child care or early childhood providers;

29           (2) Collecting and distributing resource materials to educate the public and child  
30 care and early childhood providers about the quality rating system established under this  
31 section;

32           (3) Developing and distributing educational materials, including but not limited to  
33 brochures and other media as part of a comprehensive public relations campaign about  
34 the useful and informational system of assessing the quality of child care and early  
35 childhood programs in Missouri; and

36           (4) Posting the ratings of the quality rating system on the Internet in a format easily  
37 understood and accessible by the public by January 1, 2009.

38           5. The departments of social services and health and senior services shall  
39 promulgate rules to implement the provisions of this section. Any rule or portion of a rule,  
40 as that term is defined in section 536.010, RSMo, that is created under the authority  
41 delegated in this section shall become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all  
42 of the provisions of chapter 536, RSMo, and, if applicable, section 536.028, RSMo. This  
43 section and chapter 536, RSMo, are nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the  
44 general assembly pursuant to chapter 536, RSMo, to review, to delay the effective date, or  
45 to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of  
46 rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2007, shall be  
47 invalid and void.

48           6. Pursuant to section 23.253, RSMo, of the Missouri sunset act:

49           (1) The provisions of the new program authorized under this section shall  
50 automatically sunset six years after the effective date of this section unless reauthorized by  
51 an act of the general assembly; and

52           (2) If such program is reauthorized, the program authorized under this section  
53 shall automatically sunset six years after the effective date of the reauthorization of this  
54 section; and

55           (3) This section shall terminate on September first of the calendar year immediately  
56 following the calendar year in which the program authorized under this section is sunset.

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