

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

# HOUSE BILL NO. 1524

## 94TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

---

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE FRANZ.

Pre-filed January 3, 2008 and copies ordered printed.

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

4091L.01I

---

### AN ACT

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

---

*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 September 1, 2008, the department of social services in collaboration  
2 with the departments of health and senior services, elementary and secondary education,  
3 and mental health shall develop a quality rating system for early childhood and before-  
4 and after-school programs licensed by the department of health and senior services that  
5 operate in this state. Such ratings shall be built upon Missouri's current system of  
6 licensing and regulation. The base level of the rating system shall be licensing, and the  
7 highest level of the rating system shall include accreditation by a state or nationally  
8 recognized accrediting agency. The department of social services shall utilize the model  
9 from the existing Missouri quality rating system pilots developed by the University of  
10 Missouri Center for Family Policy and Research, or any successor organization, to  
11 establish this system.

12 2. The quality rating system shall:

13 (1) Provide information for consumers and parents to evaluate and select high  
14 quality 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           (2) Create an accountability system for policymakers and those who fund early  
16 childhood and before- and after-school programs;

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

19           3. By July 1, 2011, all licensed facilities receiving quality improvement funds or  
20 services shall be rated using the quality rating system established under this section. The  
21 coordinating board for early childhood, established under section 210.102, shall develop  
22 a plan for a tiered system of reimbursement for child care subsidies based on the quality  
23 rating system established under this section. The plan shall be submitted to the general  
24 assembly with recommendations for implementation of the reimbursement system, to begin  
25 July 1, 2010.

26           4. There is hereby created in the state treasury the "Quality Rating System  
27 Program Improvement Grant Fund". Within this fund there is created a first sub-account  
28 which shall consist of all gifts, donations, transfers, and bequests to the fund.  
29 Notwithstanding the provisions of section 33.080, RSMo, to the contrary, any moneys  
30 remaining in this first sub-account shall not revert to the credit of the general revenue  
31 fund. There is also created a second sub-account consisting of moneys appropriated by the  
32 general assembly. Any moneys remaining in this second sub-account shall at the end of the  
33 biennium revert to the credit of the general revenue fund. The state treasurer shall be  
34 custodian of the fund and may approve disbursements from the fund in accordance with  
35 sections 30.170 and 30.180, RSMo. Upon appropriation, money in the fund shall be used  
36 solely for the administration of this section to provide grants directly to licensed providers  
37 seeking assistance for quality improvements to undergo evaluation under the quality rating  
38 system established under this section or to community-based organizations assisting  
39 providers with such improvements. The fund shall be administered by the department of  
40 social services. The state treasurer shall invest moneys in the fund in the same manner as  
41 other funds are invested. Any interest and moneys earned on such investments shall be  
42 credited to the fund.

43           5. The department of social services in collaboration with the departments of health  
44 and senior services and elementary and secondary education shall be responsible for:

45           (1) Collecting and distributing resource materials to educate the public and early  
46 childhood and before- and after-school programs in Missouri about the quality rating  
47 system established under this section;

48           (2) Developing and distributing educational materials, including but not limited to  
49 brochures and other media as part of a comprehensive public relations campaign about

50 the useful and informational system of assessing the quality of child care and early  
51 childhood programs in Missouri; and

52 (3) A site to post ratings of the quality rating system on the Internet in a format  
53 easily understood and accessible by the public by January 1, 2010.

54 6. The department of social services shall promulgate rules to implement the  
55 provisions of this section. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section  
56 536.010, RSMo, that is created under the authority delegated in this section shall become  
57 effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536,  
58 RSMo, and, if applicable, section 536.028, RSMo. This section and chapter 536, RSMo, are  
59 nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to  
60 chapter 536, RSMo, to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule  
61 are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any  
62 rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2008, shall be invalid and void.

63 7. For purposes of this section, "early childhood program" shall mean programs  
64 that are both centered and home-based and providing services for children from birth to  
65 kindergarten.

66 8. Pursuant to section 23.253, RSMo, of the Missouri sunset act:

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

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

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

✓