

**SENATE  
STATE OF MINNESOTA  
NINETY-FOURTH SESSION**

**S.F. No. 743**

(SENATE AUTHORS: GRUENHAGEN and Green)

DATE  
01/30/2025

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Introduction and first reading  
Referred to Health and Human Services

OFFICIAL STATUS

1.1 A bill for an act  
1.2 relating to child care programs; requiring rulemaking to relax child care  
1.3 staff-to-child ratios for smaller communities.

1.4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.5 Section 1. **DIRECTION TO COMMISSIONER; SMALLER COMMUNITY CHILD**  
1.6 **CARE CENTER RATIOS.**

1.7 (a) The commissioner of human services or the commissioner of children, youth, and  
1.8 families must amend Minnesota Rules, part 9503.0040, or its successor as a part of the  
1.9 transition of responsibilities under Laws 2023, chapter 70, and Laws 2024, chapter 80, to  
1.10 allow for more flexibility for child care centers not located in the seven-county metropolitan  
1.11 area of Hennepin, Ramsey, Anoka, Dakota, Washington, Carver, and Scott counties or in  
1.12 the cities of Rochester, Duluth, St. Cloud, and Mankato. The commissioner must allow  
1.13 centers under this paragraph to:

1.14 (1) not add a second staff member until there are six infants, ten toddlers, 15 preschoolers,  
1.15 or 20 school-aged children in a group; and

1.16 (2) group children together during regular hours of operation if there is no more than a  
1.17 60-month range in ages among the children and the requirements of Minnesota Rules, part  
1.18 9503.0040, subpart 3, item B, subitems (1), (3), and (4), are met.

1.19 (b) Notwithstanding any other requirements for good cause exempt rulemaking, the  
1.20 commissioner may use the procedure under Minnesota Statutes, section 14.388, subdivision  
1.21 1, clause (3), for changes to Minnesota Rules pursuant to this section. Minnesota Statutes,

- 2.1 section 14.386, does not apply to rules adopted pursuant to this section except as provided
- 2.2 under Minnesota Statutes, section 14.388.