

A bill for an act

relating to early childhood education; authorizing a unique identification number to be assigned to all Minnesota children at the time of birth; allowing parents to opt out; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 119A.

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

Section 1. **[119A.06] EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION; STUDENT IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS.**

Subdivision 1. Policy and purpose. The purpose of this section is to provide data about the effectiveness of Minnesota's early learning programs, by collecting and analyzing data on early learners in a manner that protects student and family confidentiality.

Subd. 2. Student identification number; assignment. Except as provided in subdivision 3, the commissioner of education shall assign a student identification number to each child born in Minnesota within ten days after a record of birth has been filed. The commissioners of education and health shall work together in order to assign these identification numbers within the specified time.

Subd. 3. Opt out. The commissioner of education shall provide information about the assignment of a student identification number and the possible uses of the student identification number to the child's parent or guardian prior to the assignment of the number. A parent or guardian may choose to opt out of the assignment of a student identification number to their child before the number is assigned. At any subsequent time prior to the enrollment of the child in a public school, the parent or guardian may notify the commissioner of education in writing of the parent or guardian's intent to cancel the use of the student identification number, and within 60 days, the commissioner must remove that child's student identification number.

2.1 Subd. 4. **Data collection.** An early childhood education program or a child care
2.2 program must request from each child's parent or guardian the child's student identification
2.3 number at the time of the child's enrollment in the program. The commissioner shall
2.4 collect from early childhood education and child care programs data including, but not
2.5 limited to, demographic, socioeconomic, participation, and assessment information related
2.6 to program participants.

2.7 Subd. 5. **Data use.** Data on individuals collected at the time of birth, through an
2.8 early childhood education assessment or screening, and the student identification numbers
2.9 assigned to individuals are private, as defined by section 13.02, subdivision 12, except
2.10 that the commissioner may share a student identification number of a child enrolled in
2.11 an early childhood education or child care program with that program if the program
2.12 requests the number of an enrollee from the commissioner. Individual and summary
2.13 data must be reported to the commissioner of education by the commissioner of health
2.14 once a record of birth has been filed and by any early childhood education or child
2.15 care program serving children from birth to kindergarten enrollment for the purposes
2.16 of developing early childhood educational programs to meet the individual needs of
2.17 children and assessing program quality. Private early childhood education and child care
2.18 programs must provide individual and summary data to the commissioner upon request.
2.19 The commissioner of health and any early childhood education or child care program
2.20 required to collect data under this section may share the data with the commissioner of
2.21 education for the purposes described in this subdivision. No data on an individual shall
2.22 be disclosed to the commissioners of education or health without the consent of that
2.23 individual's parent or guardian.

2.24 Subd. 6. **Data confidentiality.** Early childhood education and child care programs
2.25 must treat the student identification numbers in a confidential manner and must not
2.26 disclose those numbers except as authorized under this section. An early childhood
2.27 education program or a child care provider is liable for damages resulting from or
2.28 improper release of a student identification number under this section.

2.29 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective August 1, 2011.