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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-THIRD SESSION

H. F. No. 4393

02/28/2024 Authored by Fischer
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Human Services Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to human services; the Department of Human Services Office of Inspector
1.3 General policy bill; modifying provisions relating to human services licensing,
1.4 background studies, provider notifications, substance use disorder medications,
1.5 and electronic signatures; amending Minnesota Statutes 2022, sections 245A.04,
1.6 by adding a subdivision; 245A.043, subdivisions 2, 4, by adding subdivisions;
1.7 245A.52, subdivision 2, by adding a subdivision; 245C.03, by adding a subdivision;
1.8 245C.05, subdivision 5; 245C.08, subdivision 4; 245C.10, subdivision 18; 245C.14,
1.9 subdivision 1, by adding a subdivision; 245C.15, subdivisions 3, 4; 245C.22,
1.10 subdivision 4; 245C.24, subdivisions 2, 5, 6; 245C.30, by adding a subdivision;
1.11 245F.09, subdivision 2; 245F.14, by adding a subdivision; 245G.07, subdivision
1.12 4; 245G.08, subdivisions 5, 6; 245G.10, by adding a subdivision; 245G.22,
1.13 subdivisions 6, 7; 260E.33, subdivision 2; Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement,
1.14 sections 13.46, subdivision 4; 245.735, subdivision 4b; 245A.03, subdivision 2;
1.15 245A.043, subdivision 3; 245A.07, subdivision 1; 245A.11, subdivision 7; 245A.16,
1.16 subdivision 1; 245A.211, subdivision 4; 245A.242, subdivision 2; 245C.02,
1.17 subdivision 13e; 245C.033, subdivision 3; 245C.10, subdivision 15; 245C.15,
1.18 subdivisions 2, 4a; 245G.22, subdivisions 2, 17; 256.046, subdivision 3; 256B.064,
1.19 subdivision 4; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 245C;
1.20 repealing Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 245C.125; Minnesota Statutes 2023
1.21 Supplement, section 245C.08, subdivision 2; Minnesota Rules, part 9502.0425,
1.22 subparts 5, 10.

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

1.24 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 13.46, subdivision 4, is amended
1.25 to read:

1.26 Subd. 4. Licensing data. (a) As used in this subdivision:

1.27 (1) "licensing data" are all data collected, maintained, used, or disseminated by the
1.28 welfare system pertaining to persons licensed or registered or who apply for licensure or
1.29 registration or who formerly were licensed or registered under the authority of the
1.30 commissioner of human services;

2.1 (2) "client" means a person who is receiving services from a licensee or from an applicant  
2.2 for licensure; and

2.3 (3) "personal and personal financial data" are Social Security numbers, identity of and  
2.4 letters of reference, insurance information, reports from the Bureau of Criminal  
2.5 Apprehension, health examination reports, and social/home studies.

2.6 (b)(1)(i) Except as provided in paragraph (c), the following data on applicants,  
2.7 certification holders, license holders, and former licensees are public: name, address,  
2.8 telephone number of licensees, email addresses except for family child foster care, date of  
2.9 receipt of a completed application, dates of licensure, licensed capacity, type of client  
2.10 preferred, variances granted, record of training and education in child care and child  
2.11 development, type of dwelling, name and relationship of other family members, previous  
2.12 license history, class of license, the existence and status of complaints, and the number of  
2.13 serious injuries to or deaths of individuals in the licensed program as reported to the  
2.14 commissioner of human services, the local social services agency, or any other county  
2.15 welfare agency. For purposes of this clause, a serious injury is one that is treated by a  
2.16 physician.

2.17 (ii) Except as provided in item (v), when a correction order, an order to forfeit a fine,  
2.18 an order of license suspension, an order of temporary immediate suspension, an order of  
2.19 license revocation, an order of license denial, or an order of conditional license has been  
2.20 issued, or a complaint is resolved, the following data on current and former licensees and  
2.21 applicants are public: the general nature of the complaint or allegations leading to the  
2.22 temporary immediate suspension; the substance and investigative findings of the licensing  
2.23 or maltreatment complaint, licensing violation, or substantiated maltreatment; the existence  
2.24 of settlement negotiations; the record of informal resolution of a licensing violation; orders  
2.25 of hearing; findings of fact; conclusions of law; specifications of the final correction order,  
2.26 fine, suspension, temporary immediate suspension, revocation, denial, or conditional license  
2.27 contained in the record of licensing action; whether a fine has been paid; and the status of  
2.28 any appeal of these actions.

2.29 (iii) When a license denial under section 245A.05 or a sanction under section 245A.07  
2.30 is based on a determination that a license holder, applicant, or controlling individual is  
2.31 responsible for maltreatment under section 626.557 or chapter 260E, the identity of the  
2.32 applicant, license holder, or controlling individual as the individual responsible for  
2.33 maltreatment is public data at the time of the issuance of the license denial or sanction.

3.1 (iv) When a license denial under section 245A.05 or a sanction under section 245A.07  
3.2 is based on a determination that a license holder, applicant, or controlling individual is  
3.3 disqualified under chapter 245C, the identity of the license holder, applicant, or controlling  
3.4 individual as the disqualified individual is public data at the time of the issuance of the  
3.5 licensing sanction or denial. If the applicant, license holder, or controlling individual requests  
3.6 reconsideration of the disqualification and the disqualification is affirmed, the reason for  
3.7 the disqualification and the reason to not set aside the disqualification are private data.

3.8 (v) A correction order or fine issued to a child care provider for a licensing violation is  
3.9 private data on individuals under section 13.02, subdivision 12, or nonpublic data under  
3.10 section 13.02, subdivision 9, if the correction order or fine is seven years old or older.

3.11 (2) For applicants who withdraw their application prior to licensure or denial of a license,  
3.12 the following data are public: the name of the applicant, the city and county in which the  
3.13 applicant was seeking licensure, the dates of the commissioner's receipt of the initial  
3.14 application and completed application, the type of license sought, and the date of withdrawal  
3.15 of the application.

3.16 (3) For applicants who are denied a license, the following data are public: the name and  
3.17 address of the applicant, the city and county in which the applicant was seeking licensure,  
3.18 the dates of the commissioner's receipt of the initial application and completed application,  
3.19 the type of license sought, the date of denial of the application, the nature of the basis for  
3.20 the denial, the existence of settlement negotiations, the record of informal resolution of a  
3.21 denial, orders of hearings, findings of fact, conclusions of law, specifications of the final  
3.22 order of denial, and the status of any appeal of the denial.

3.23 (4) When maltreatment is substantiated under section 626.557 or chapter 260E and the  
3.24 victim and the substantiated perpetrator are affiliated with a program licensed under chapter  
3.25 245A, the commissioner of human services, local social services agency, or county welfare  
3.26 agency may inform the license holder where the maltreatment occurred of the identity of  
3.27 the substantiated perpetrator and the victim.

3.28 (5) Notwithstanding clause (1), for child foster care, only the name of the license holder  
3.29 and the status of the license are public if the county attorney has requested that data otherwise  
3.30 classified as public data under clause (1) be considered private data based on the best interests  
3.31 of a child in placement in a licensed program.

3.32 (c) The following are private data on individuals under section 13.02, subdivision 12,  
3.33 or nonpublic data under section 13.02, subdivision 9: personal and personal financial data

4.1 on family day care program and family foster care program applicants and licensees and  
4.2 their family members who provide services under the license.

4.3 (d) The following are private data on individuals: the identity of persons who have made  
4.4 reports concerning licensees or applicants that appear in inactive investigative data, and the  
4.5 records of clients or employees of the licensee or applicant for licensure whose records are  
4.6 received by the licensing agency for purposes of review or in anticipation of a contested  
4.7 matter. The names of reporters of complaints or alleged violations of licensing standards  
4.8 under chapters 245A, 245B, 245C, and 245D, and applicable rules and alleged maltreatment  
4.9 under section 626.557 and chapter 260E, are confidential data and may be disclosed only  
4.10 as provided in section 260E.21, subdivision 4; 260E.35; or 626.557, subdivision 12b.

4.11 (e) Data classified as private, confidential, nonpublic, or protected nonpublic under this  
4.12 subdivision become public data if submitted to a court or administrative law judge as part  
4.13 of a disciplinary proceeding in which there is a public hearing concerning a license which  
4.14 has been suspended, immediately suspended, revoked, or denied.

4.15 (f) Data generated in the course of licensing investigations that relate to an alleged  
4.16 violation of law are investigative data under subdivision 3.

4.17 (g) Data that are not public data collected, maintained, used, or disseminated under this  
4.18 subdivision that relate to or are derived from a report as defined in section 260E.03, or  
4.19 626.5572, subdivision 18, are subject to the destruction provisions of sections 260E.35,  
4.20 subdivision 6, and 626.557, subdivision 12b.

4.21 (h) Upon request, not public data collected, maintained, used, or disseminated under  
4.22 this subdivision that relate to or are derived from a report of substantiated maltreatment as  
4.23 defined in section 626.557 or chapter 260E may be exchanged with the Department of  
4.24 Health for purposes of completing background studies pursuant to section 144.057 and with  
4.25 the Department of Corrections for purposes of completing background studies pursuant to  
4.26 section 241.021.

4.27 (i) Data on individuals collected according to licensing activities under chapters 245A  
4.28 and 245C, data on individuals collected by the commissioner of human services according  
4.29 to investigations under section 626.557 and chapters 245A, 245B, 245C, 245D, and 260E  
4.30 may be shared with the Department of Human Rights, the Department of Health, the  
4.31 Department of Corrections, the ombudsman for mental health and developmental disabilities,  
4.32 and the individual's professional regulatory board when there is reason to believe that laws  
4.33 or standards under the jurisdiction of those agencies may have been violated or the  
4.34 information may otherwise be relevant to the board's regulatory jurisdiction. Background

5.1 study data on an individual who is the subject of a background study under chapter 245C  
5.2 for a licensed service for which the commissioner of human services is the license holder  
5.3 may be shared with the commissioner and the commissioner's delegate by the licensing  
5.4 division. Unless otherwise specified in this chapter, the identity of a reporter of alleged  
5.5 maltreatment or licensing violations may not be disclosed.

5.6 (j) In addition to the notice of determinations required under sections 260E.24,  
5.7 subdivisions 5 and 7, and 260E.30, subdivision 6, paragraphs (b), (c), (d), (e), and (f), if the  
5.8 commissioner or the local social services agency has determined that an individual is a  
5.9 substantiated perpetrator of maltreatment of a child based on sexual abuse, as defined in  
5.10 section 260E.03, and the commissioner or local social services agency knows that the  
5.11 individual is a person responsible for a child's care in another facility, the commissioner or  
5.12 local social services agency shall notify the head of that facility of this determination. The  
5.13 notification must include an explanation of the individual's available appeal rights and the  
5.14 status of any appeal. If a notice is given under this paragraph, the government entity making  
5.15 the notification shall provide a copy of the notice to the individual who is the subject of the  
5.16 notice.

5.17 (k) All not public data collected, maintained, used, or disseminated under this subdivision  
5.18 and subdivision 3 may be exchanged between the Department of Human Services, Licensing  
5.19 Division, and the Department of Corrections for purposes of regulating services for which  
5.20 the Department of Human Services and the Department of Corrections have regulatory  
5.21 authority.

5.22 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 245.735, subdivision 4b, is amended  
5.23 to read:

5.24 Subd. 4b. **Requirements for comprehensive evaluations.** (a) A comprehensive  
5.25 evaluation must be completed for all new clients within 60 calendar days following the  
5.26 preliminary screening and risk assessment.

5.27 (b) Only a mental health professional may complete a comprehensive evaluation. The  
5.28 mental health professional must consult with an alcohol and drug counselor when substance  
5.29 use disorder services are deemed clinically appropriate.

5.30 (c) The comprehensive evaluation must consist of the synthesis of existing information  
5.31 including but not limited to an external diagnostic assessment, crisis assessment, preliminary  
5.32 screening and risk assessment, initial evaluation, and primary care screenings.

6.1 (d) A comprehensive evaluation must be completed in the cultural context of the client  
 6.2 and updated to reflect changes in the client's conditions and at the client's request or when  
 6.3 the client's condition no longer meets the existing diagnosis.

6.4 (e) The psychiatric evaluation and management service fulfills requirements for the  
 6.5 comprehensive evaluation when a client of a CCBHC is receiving exclusively psychiatric  
 6.6 evaluation and management services. The CCBHC shall complete the comprehensive  
 6.7 evaluation within 60 calendar days of a client's referral for additional CCBHC services.

6.8 ~~(f) For clients engaging exclusively in substance use disorder services at the CCBHC,~~  
 6.9 ~~a substance use disorder comprehensive assessment as defined in section 245G.05,~~  
 6.10 ~~subdivision 2, that is completed within 60 calendar days of service initiation shall fulfill~~  
 6.11 ~~requirements of the comprehensive evaluation. Comprehensive evaluations must comply~~  
 6.12 ~~with the most recently issued Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic Certification~~  
 6.13 ~~Criteria published by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.~~

6.14 (g) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, a comprehensive evaluation performed by  
 6.15 a CCBHC that meets the requirements of this subdivision satisfies the requirements in:

6.16 (1) section 245.462, subdivision 20, paragraph (c);

6.17 (2) section 245.4711, subdivision 2, paragraph (b);

6.18 (3) section 245.4871, subdivision 6;

6.19 (4) section 245.4881, subdivision 2, paragraph (c);

6.20 (5) section 245G.04, subdivision 1;

6.21 (6) section 245G.05, subdivision 1;

6.22 (7) section 245I.10, subdivisions 4 to 6;

6.23 (8) section 256B.0623, subdivisions 3, clause (4), 8, and 10;

6.24 (9) section 256B.0943, subdivisions 3 and 6, paragraph (b), clause (1);

6.25 (10) Minnesota Rules, part 9520.0909, subpart 1;

6.26 (11) Minnesota Rules, part 9520.0910, subparts 1 and 2; and

6.27 (12) Minnesota Rules, part 9520.0914, subpart 2.

6.28 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

7.1 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 245A.03, subdivision 2, is amended  
7.2 to read:

7.3 Subd. 2. **Exclusion from licensure.** (a) This chapter does not apply to:

7.4 (1) residential or nonresidential programs that are provided to a person by an individual  
7.5 who is related unless the residential program is a child foster care placement made by a  
7.6 local social services agency or a licensed child-placing agency, except as provided in  
7.7 subdivision 2a;

7.8 (2) nonresidential programs that are provided by an unrelated individual to persons from  
7.9 a single related family;

7.10 (3) residential or nonresidential programs that are provided to adults who do not misuse  
7.11 substances or have a substance use disorder, a mental illness, a developmental disability, a  
7.12 functional impairment, or a physical disability;

7.13 (4) sheltered workshops or work activity programs that are certified by the commissioner  
7.14 of employment and economic development;

7.15 (5) programs operated by a public school for children 33 months or older;

7.16 (6) nonresidential programs primarily for children that provide care or supervision for  
7.17 periods of less than three hours a day while the child's parent or legal guardian is in the  
7.18 same building as the nonresidential program or present within another building that is  
7.19 directly contiguous to the building in which the nonresidential program is located;

7.20 (7) nursing homes or hospitals licensed by the commissioner of health except as specified  
7.21 under section 245A.02;

7.22 (8) board and lodge facilities licensed by the commissioner of health that do not provide  
7.23 children's residential services under Minnesota Rules, chapter 2960, mental health or  
7.24 substance use disorder treatment;

7.25 (9) homes providing programs for persons placed by a county or a licensed agency for  
7.26 legal adoption, unless the adoption is not completed within two years;

7.27 (10) programs licensed by the commissioner of corrections;

7.28 (11) recreation programs for children or adults that are operated or approved by a park  
7.29 and recreation board whose primary purpose is to provide social and recreational activities;

7.30 (12) programs operated by a school as defined in section 120A.22, subdivision 4; YMCA  
7.31 as defined in section 315.44; YWCA as defined in section 315.44; or JCC as defined in

8.1 section 315.51, whose primary purpose is to provide child care or services to school-age  
8.2 children;

8.3 (13) Head Start nonresidential programs which operate for less than 45 days in each  
8.4 calendar year;

8.5 (14) noncertified boarding care homes unless they provide services for five or more  
8.6 persons whose primary diagnosis is mental illness or a developmental disability;

8.7 (15) programs for children such as scouting, boys clubs, girls clubs, and sports and art  
8.8 programs, and nonresidential programs for children provided for a cumulative total of less  
8.9 than 30 days in any 12-month period;

8.10 (16) residential programs for persons with mental illness, that are located in hospitals;

8.11 (17) the religious instruction of school-age children; Sabbath or Sunday schools; or the  
8.12 congregate care of children by a church, congregation, or religious society during the period  
8.13 used by the church, congregation, or religious society for its regular worship;

8.14 (18) camps licensed by the commissioner of health under Minnesota Rules, chapter  
8.15 4630;

8.16 (19) mental health outpatient services for adults with mental illness or children with  
8.17 emotional disturbance;

8.18 (20) residential programs serving school-age children whose sole purpose is cultural or  
8.19 educational exchange, until the commissioner adopts appropriate rules;

8.20 (21) community support services programs as defined in section 245.462, subdivision  
8.21 6, and family community support services as defined in section 245.4871, subdivision 17;

8.22 (22) the placement of a child by a birth parent or legal guardian in a preadoptive home  
8.23 for purposes of adoption as authorized by section 259.47;

8.24 (23) ~~settings registered under chapter 144D which provide home care services licensed~~  
8.25 ~~by the commissioner of health to fewer than seven adults~~ assisted living facilities licensed  
8.26 by the commissioner of health under chapter 144G;

8.27 (24) substance use disorder treatment activities of licensed professionals in private  
8.28 practice as defined in section 245G.01, subdivision 17;

8.29 (25) consumer-directed community support service funded under the Medicaid waiver  
8.30 for persons with developmental disabilities when the individual who provided the service  
8.31 is:

9.1 (i) the same individual who is the direct payee of these specific waiver funds or paid by  
9.2 a fiscal agent, fiscal intermediary, or employer of record; and

9.3 (ii) not otherwise under the control of a residential or nonresidential program that is  
9.4 required to be licensed under this chapter when providing the service;

9.5 (26) a program serving only children who are age 33 months or older, that is operated  
9.6 by a nonpublic school, for no more than four hours per day per child, with no more than 20  
9.7 children at any one time, and that is accredited by:

9.8 (i) an accrediting agency that is formally recognized by the commissioner of education  
9.9 as a nonpublic school accrediting organization; or

9.10 (ii) an accrediting agency that requires background studies and that receives and  
9.11 investigates complaints about the services provided.

9.12 A program that asserts its exemption from licensure under item (ii) shall, upon request  
9.13 from the commissioner, provide the commissioner with documentation from the accrediting  
9.14 agency that verifies: that the accreditation is current; that the accrediting agency investigates  
9.15 complaints about services; and that the accrediting agency's standards require background  
9.16 studies on all people providing direct contact services;

9.17 (27) a program operated by a nonprofit organization incorporated in Minnesota or another  
9.18 state that serves youth in kindergarten through grade 12; provides structured, supervised  
9.19 youth development activities; and has learning opportunities take place before or after  
9.20 school, on weekends, or during the summer or other seasonal breaks in the school calendar.  
9.21 A program exempt under this clause is not eligible for child care assistance under chapter  
9.22 119B. A program exempt under this clause must:

9.23 (i) have a director or supervisor on site who is responsible for overseeing written policies  
9.24 relating to the management and control of the daily activities of the program, ensuring the  
9.25 health and safety of program participants, and supervising staff and volunteers;

9.26 (ii) have obtained written consent from a parent or legal guardian for each youth  
9.27 participating in activities at the site; and

9.28 (iii) have provided written notice to a parent or legal guardian for each youth at the site  
9.29 that the program is not licensed or supervised by the state of Minnesota and is not eligible  
9.30 to receive child care assistance payments;

9.31 (28) a county that is an eligible vendor under section 254B.05 to provide care coordination  
9.32 and comprehensive assessment services;

10.1 (29) a recovery community organization that is an eligible vendor under section 254B.05  
10.2 to provide peer recovery support services; or

10.3 (30) Head Start programs that serve only children who are at least three years old but  
10.4 not yet six years old.

10.5 (b) For purposes of paragraph (a), clause (6), a building is directly contiguous to a  
10.6 building in which a nonresidential program is located if it shares a common wall with the  
10.7 building in which the nonresidential program is located or is attached to that building by  
10.8 skyway, tunnel, atrium, or common roof.

10.9 (c) Except for the home and community-based services identified in section 245D.03,  
10.10 subdivision 1, nothing in this chapter shall be construed to require licensure for any services  
10.11 provided and funded according to an approved federal waiver plan where licensure is  
10.12 specifically identified as not being a condition for the services and funding.

10.13 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025.

10.14 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 245A.04, is amended by adding a subdivision to  
10.15 read:

10.16 **Subd. 7b. Notification to commissioner of changes in key staff positions; children's**  
10.17 **residential facilities and detoxification programs.** (a) A license holder must notify the  
10.18 commissioner within five business days of a change or vacancy in a key staff position under  
10.19 paragraphs (b) or (c). The license holder must notify the commissioner of the staffing change  
10.20 or vacancy on a form approved by the commissioner and include the name of the staff person  
10.21 now assigned to the key staff position and the staff person's qualifications for the position.

10.22 (b) The key staff position for a children's residential facility licensed according to  
10.23 Minnesota Rules, parts 2960.0130 to 2960.0220, is a program director; and

10.24 (c) The key staff positions for a detoxification program licensed according to Minnesota  
10.25 Rules, parts 9530.6510 to 9530.6590, are:

10.26 (1) a program director as required by Minnesota Rules, part 9530.6560, subpart 1;

10.27 (2) a registered nurse as required by Minnesota Rules, part 9530.6560, subpart 4; and

10.28 (3) a medical director as required by Minnesota Rules, part 9530.6560, subpart 5.

10.29 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025.

11.1 Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 245A.043, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

11.2 Subd. 2. **Change in ownership.** (a) If the commissioner determines that there is a change  
11.3 in ownership, the commissioner shall require submission of a new license application. This  
11.4 subdivision does not apply to a licensed program or service located in a home where the  
11.5 license holder resides. A change in ownership occurs when:

11.6 (1) except as provided in paragraph (b), the license holder sells or transfers 100 percent  
11.7 of the property, stock, or assets;

11.8 (2) the license holder merges with another organization;

11.9 (3) the license holder consolidates with two or more organizations, resulting in the  
11.10 creation of a new organization;

11.11 (4) there is a change to the federal tax identification number associated with the license  
11.12 holder; or

11.13 (5) except as provided in paragraph (b), all controlling individuals ~~associated with~~ for  
11.14 the original ~~application~~ license have changed.

11.15 (b) ~~Notwithstanding~~ For changes under paragraph (a), clauses (1) ~~and~~ or (5), no change  
11.16 in ownership has occurred and a new license application is not required if at least one  
11.17 controlling individual has been ~~listed~~ affiliated as a controlling individual for the license  
11.18 for at least the previous 12 months immediately preceding the change.

11.19 Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 245A.043, subdivision 3, is amended  
11.20 to read:

11.21 Subd. 3. **Standard change of ownership process.** (a) When a change in ownership is  
11.22 proposed and the party intends to assume operation without an interruption in service longer  
11.23 than 60 days after acquiring the program or service, the license holder must provide the  
11.24 commissioner with written notice of the proposed change on a form provided by the  
11.25 commissioner at least ~~60~~ 90 days before the anticipated date of the change in ownership.  
11.26 For purposes of this ~~subdivision and subdivision 4~~ section, "party" means the party that  
11.27 intends to operate the service or program.

11.28 (b) The party must submit a license application under this chapter on the form and in  
11.29 the manner prescribed by the commissioner at least ~~30~~ 90 days before the change in  
11.30 ownership is anticipated to be complete; and must include documentation to support the  
11.31 upcoming change. The party must comply with background study requirements under chapter  
11.32 245C and shall pay the application fee required under section 245A.10.

12.1 (c) A party that intends to assume operation without an interruption in service longer  
12.2 than 60 days after acquiring the program or service is exempt from the requirements of  
12.3 sections 245G.03, subdivision 2, paragraph (b), and 254B.03, subdivision 2, paragraphs (c)  
12.4 and (d).

12.5 ~~(e)~~ (d) The commissioner may streamline application procedures when the party is an  
12.6 existing license holder under this chapter and is acquiring a program licensed under this  
12.7 chapter or service in the same service class as one or more licensed programs or services  
12.8 the party operates and those licenses are in substantial compliance. For purposes of this  
12.9 subdivision, "substantial compliance" means within the previous 12 months the commissioner  
12.10 did not (1) issue a sanction under section 245A.07 against a license held by the party, or  
12.11 (2) make a license held by the party conditional according to section 245A.06.

12.12 ~~(d) Except when a temporary change in ownership license is issued pursuant to~~  
12.13 ~~subdivision 4~~ (e) While the standard change of ownership process is pending, the existing  
12.14 license holder ~~is solely~~ remains responsible for operating the program according to applicable  
12.15 laws and rules until a license under this chapter is issued to the party.

12.16 ~~(e)~~ (f) If a licensing inspection of the program or service was conducted within the  
12.17 previous 12 months and the existing license holder's license record demonstrates substantial  
12.18 compliance with the applicable licensing requirements, the commissioner may waive the  
12.19 party's inspection required by section 245A.04, subdivision 4. The party must submit to the  
12.20 commissioner (1) proof that the premises was inspected by a fire marshal or that the fire  
12.21 marshal deemed that an inspection was not warranted, and (2) proof that the premises was  
12.22 inspected for compliance with the building code or that no inspection was deemed warranted.

12.23 ~~(f)~~ (g) If the party is seeking a license for a program or service that has an outstanding  
12.24 action under section 245A.06 or 245A.07, the party must submit a ~~letter~~ written plan as part  
12.25 of the application process identifying how the party has or will come into full compliance  
12.26 with the licensing requirements.

12.27 ~~(g)~~ (h) The commissioner shall evaluate the party's application according to section  
12.28 245A.04, subdivision 6. If the commissioner determines that the party has remedied or  
12.29 demonstrates the ability to remedy the outstanding actions under section 245A.06 or 245A.07  
12.30 and has determined that the program otherwise complies with all applicable laws and rules,  
12.31 the commissioner shall issue a license or conditional license under this chapter. A conditional  
12.32 license issued under this section is final and not subject to reconsideration under section  
12.33 245A.06, subdivision 4. The conditional license remains in effect until the commissioner  
12.34 determines that the grounds for the action are corrected or no longer exist.

13.1 ~~(h)~~ (i) The commissioner may deny an application as provided in section 245A.05. An  
 13.2 applicant whose application was denied by the commissioner may appeal the denial according  
 13.3 to section 245A.05.

13.4 ~~(i)~~ (j) This subdivision does not apply to a licensed program or service located in a home  
 13.5 where the license holder resides.

13.6 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025.

13.7 Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 245A.043, is amended by adding a subdivision  
 13.8 to read:

13.9 Subd. 3a. **Emergency change in ownership process.** (a) In the event of a death of a  
 13.10 license holder or sole controlling individual or a court order or other event that results in  
 13.11 the license holder being inaccessible or unable to operate the program or service, a party  
 13.12 may submit a request to the commissioner to allow the party to assume operation of the  
 13.13 program or service under an emergency change in ownership process to ensure persons  
 13.14 continue to receive services while the commissioner evaluates the party's license application.

13.15 (b) To request the emergency change of ownership process, the party must immediately:

13.16 (1) notify the commissioner of the event resulting in the inability of the license holder  
 13.17 to operate the program and of the license holder's intent to assume operations; and

13.18 (2) provide the commissioner with documentation that demonstrates the party has a legal  
 13.19 or legitimate ownership interest in the program or service if applicable and is able to operate  
 13.20 the program or service.

13.21 (c) If the commissioner approves the party to continue operating the program or service  
 13.22 under an emergency change in ownership process, the party must:

13.23 (1) request to be added as a controlling individual or license holder to the existing license;

13.24 (2) notify persons receiving services of the emergency change in ownership in a manner  
 13.25 approved by the commissioner;

13.26 (3) submit an application for a new license within 30 days of approval;

13.27 (4) comply with the background study requirements under chapter 245C; and

13.28 (5) pay the application fee required under section 245A.10.

13.29 (d) While the emergency change of ownership process is pending, a party approved  
 13.30 under this subdivision is responsible for operating the program under the existing license  
 13.31 according to applicable laws and rules until a new license under this chapter is issued.

14.1 (e) The provisions in subdivision 3, paragraphs (c), (d), and (f) to (i) apply to this  
 14.2 subdivision.

14.3 (f) Once a party is issued a new license or has decided not to seek a new license, the  
 14.4 commissioner must close the existing license.

14.5 (g) This subdivision applies to any program or service licensed under this chapter.

14.6 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025.

14.7 Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 245A.043, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

14.8 Subd. 4. **Temporary ~~change in ownership~~ transitional license.** (a) ~~After receiving the~~  
 14.9 ~~party's application pursuant to subdivision 3, upon the written request of the existing license~~  
 14.10 ~~holder and the party, the commissioner may issue a temporary change in ownership license~~  
 14.11 ~~to the party while the commissioner evaluates the party's application. Until a decision is~~  
 14.12 ~~made to grant or deny a license under this chapter, the existing license holder and the party~~  
 14.13 ~~shall both be responsible for operating the program or service according to applicable laws~~  
 14.14 ~~and rules, and the sale or transfer of the existing license holder's ownership interest in the~~  
 14.15 ~~licensed program or service does not terminate the existing license.~~

14.16 ~~(b) The commissioner may issue a temporary change in ownership license when a license~~  
 14.17 ~~holder's death, divorce, or other event affects the ownership of the program and an applicant~~  
 14.18 ~~seeks to assume operation of the program or service to ensure continuity of the program or~~  
 14.19 ~~service while a license application is evaluated.~~

14.20 ~~(c) This subdivision applies to any program or service licensed under this chapter.~~

14.21 If a party's application under subdivision 2 is for a satellite license for a community  
 14.22 residential setting under section 245D.23 or day services facility under 245D.27 and if the  
 14.23 party already holds an active license to provide services under chapter 245D, the  
 14.24 commissioner may issue a temporary transitional license to the party for the community  
 14.25 residential setting or day services facility while the commissioner evaluates the party's  
 14.26 application. Until a decision is made to grant or deny a community residential setting or  
 14.27 day services facility satellite license, the party must be solely responsible for operating the  
 14.28 program according to applicable laws and rules, and the existing license must be closed.  
 14.29 The temporary transitional license expires after 12 months from the date it was issued or  
 14.30 upon issuance of the community residential setting or day services facility satellite license,  
 14.31 whichever occurs first.

14.32 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025.

15.1 Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 245A.043, is amended by adding a subdivision  
15.2 to read:

15.3 Subd. 5. **Failure to comply.** If the commissioner finds that the applicant or license holder  
15.4 has not fully complied with this section, the commissioner may impose a licensing sanction  
15.5 under section 245A.05, 245A.06, or 245A.07.

15.6 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025.

15.7 Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 245A.07, subdivision 1, is amended  
15.8 to read:

15.9 Subdivision 1. **Sanctions; appeals; license.** (a) In addition to making a license conditional  
15.10 under section 245A.06, the commissioner may suspend or revoke the license, impose a fine,  
15.11 or secure an injunction against the continuing operation of the program of a license holder  
15.12 who:

15.13 (1) does not comply with applicable law or rule;

15.14 (2) has nondisqualifying background study information, as described in section 245C.05,  
15.15 subdivision 4, that reflects on the license holder's ability to safely provide care to foster  
15.16 children; or

15.17 (3) has an individual living in the household where the licensed services are provided  
15.18 or is otherwise subject to a background study, and the individual has nondisqualifying  
15.19 background study information, as described in section 245C.05, subdivision 4, that reflects  
15.20 on the license holder's ability to safely provide care to foster children.

15.21 When applying sanctions authorized under this section, the commissioner shall consider  
15.22 the nature, chronicity, or severity of the violation of law or rule and the effect of the violation  
15.23 on the health, safety, or rights of persons served by the program.

15.24 (b) If a license holder appeals the suspension or revocation of a license and the license  
15.25 holder continues to operate the program pending a final order on the appeal, the commissioner  
15.26 shall issue the license holder a temporary provisional license. The commissioner may include  
15.27 terms the license holder must follow pending a final order on the appeal. Unless otherwise  
15.28 specified by the commissioner, variances in effect on the date of the license sanction under  
15.29 appeal continue under the temporary provisional license. If a license holder fails to comply  
15.30 with applicable law or rule while operating under a temporary provisional license, the  
15.31 commissioner may impose additional sanctions under this section and section 245A.06, and  
15.32 may terminate any prior variance. If a temporary provisional license is set to expire, a new  
15.33 temporary provisional license shall be issued to the license holder upon payment of any fee

16.1 required under section 245A.10. The temporary provisional license shall expire on the date  
 16.2 the final order is issued. If the license holder prevails on the appeal, a new nonprovisional  
 16.3 license shall be issued for the remainder of the current license period.

16.4 (c) If a license holder is under investigation and the license issued under this chapter is  
 16.5 due to expire before completion of the investigation, the program shall be issued a new  
 16.6 license upon completion of the reapplication requirements and payment of any applicable  
 16.7 license fee. Upon completion of the investigation, a licensing sanction may be imposed  
 16.8 against the new license under this section, section 245A.06, or 245A.08.

16.9 (d) Failure to reapply or closure of a license issued under this chapter by the license  
 16.10 holder prior to the completion of any investigation shall not preclude the commissioner  
 16.11 from issuing a licensing sanction under this section or section 245A.06 at the conclusion  
 16.12 of the investigation.

16.13 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025.

16.14 Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 245A.11, subdivision 7, is amended  
 16.15 to read:

16.16 Subd. 7. **Adult foster care and community residential setting; variance for alternate**  
 16.17 **overnight supervision.** (a) The commissioner may grant a variance under section 245A.04,  
 16.18 subdivision 9, to statute or rule parts requiring a caregiver to be present in an adult foster  
 16.19 care home or a community residential setting during normal sleeping hours to allow for  
 16.20 alternative methods of overnight supervision. The commissioner may grant the variance if  
 16.21 the local county licensing agency recommends the variance and the county recommendation  
 16.22 includes documentation verifying that:

16.23 (1) the county has approved the license holder's plan for alternative methods of providing  
 16.24 overnight supervision and determined the plan protects the residents' health, safety, and  
 16.25 rights;

16.26 (2) the license holder has obtained written and signed informed consent from each  
 16.27 resident or each resident's legal representative documenting the resident's or legal  
 16.28 representative's agreement with the alternative method of overnight supervision; and

16.29 (3) the alternative method of providing overnight supervision, which may include the  
 16.30 use of technology, is specified for each resident in the resident's: (i) individualized plan of  
 16.31 care; (ii) ~~individual service~~ support plan under section 256B.092, subdivision 1b, if required;  
 16.32 or (iii) individual resident placement agreement under Minnesota Rules, part 9555.5105,  
 16.33 subpart 19, if required.

17.1 (b) To be eligible for a variance under paragraph (a), the adult foster care or community  
 17.2 residential setting license holder must not have had a conditional license issued under section  
 17.3 245A.06, or any other licensing sanction issued under section 245A.07 during the prior 24  
 17.4 months based on failure to provide adequate supervision, health care services, or resident  
 17.5 safety in the adult foster care home or a community residential setting.

17.6 (c) A license holder requesting a variance under this subdivision to utilize technology  
 17.7 as a component of a plan for alternative overnight supervision may request the commissioner's  
 17.8 review in the absence of a county recommendation. Upon receipt of such a request from a  
 17.9 license holder, the commissioner shall review the variance request with the county.

17.10 ~~(d) The variance requirements under this subdivision for alternative overnight supervision~~  
 17.11 ~~do not apply to community residential settings licensed under chapter 245D.~~

17.12 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

17.13 Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 245A.16, subdivision 1, is amended  
 17.14 to read:

17.15 Subdivision 1. **Delegation of authority to agencies.** (a) County agencies and private  
 17.16 agencies that have been designated or licensed by the commissioner to perform licensing  
 17.17 functions and activities under section 245A.04; to recommend denial of applicants under  
 17.18 section 245A.05; to issue correction orders, to issue variances, and recommend a conditional  
 17.19 license under section 245A.06; or to recommend suspending or revoking a license or issuing  
 17.20 a fine under section 245A.07, shall comply with rules and directives of the commissioner  
 17.21 governing those functions and with this section. The following variances are excluded from  
 17.22 the delegation of variance authority and may be issued only by the commissioner:

17.23 (1) dual licensure of family child care and family child foster care, dual licensure of  
 17.24 family child foster care and family adult foster care, dual licensure of child foster residence  
 17.25 setting and community residential setting, and dual licensure of family adult foster care and  
 17.26 family child care;

17.27 (2) adult foster care or community residential setting maximum capacity;

17.28 (3) adult foster care or community residential setting minimum age requirement;

17.29 (4) child foster care maximum age requirement;

17.30 (5) variances regarding disqualified individuals;

17.31 (6) the required presence of a caregiver in the adult foster care residence during normal  
 17.32 sleeping hours;

18.1 (7) variances to requirements relating to chemical use problems of a license holder or a  
18.2 household member of a license holder;

18.3 (8) variances to section 245A.53 for a time-limited period. If the commissioner grants  
18.4 a variance under this clause, the license holder must provide notice of the variance to all  
18.5 parents and guardians of the children in care; and

18.6 (9) variances to section 245A.1435 for the use of a cradleboard for a cultural  
18.7 accommodation.

18.8 Except as provided in section 245A.14, subdivision 4, paragraph (a), clause (5), a county  
18.9 agency must not grant a license holder a variance to exceed the maximum allowable family  
18.10 child care license capacity of 14 children.

18.11 (b) A county agency that has been designated by the commissioner to issue family child  
18.12 care variances must:

18.13 (1) publish the county agency's policies and criteria for issuing variances on the county's  
18.14 public website and update the policies as necessary; and

18.15 (2) annually distribute the county agency's policies and criteria for issuing variances to  
18.16 all family child care license holders in the county.

18.17 (c) For family child care programs, the commissioner shall require a county agency to  
18.18 conduct one unannounced licensing review at least annually.

18.19 (d) For family adult day services programs, the commissioner may authorize licensing  
18.20 reviews every two years after a licensee has had at least one annual review.

18.21 (e) A license issued under this section may be issued for up to two years.

18.22 (f) During implementation of chapter 245D, the commissioner shall consider:

18.23 (1) the role of counties in quality assurance;

18.24 (2) the duties of county licensing staff; and

18.25 (3) the possible use of joint powers agreements, according to section 471.59, with counties  
18.26 through which some licensing duties under chapter 245D may be delegated by the  
18.27 commissioner to the counties.

18.28 Any consideration related to this paragraph must meet all of the requirements of the corrective  
18.29 action plan ordered by the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

18.30 (g) Licensing authority specific to section 245D.06, subdivisions 5, 6, 7, and 8, or  
18.31 successor provisions; and section 245D.061 or successor provisions, for family child foster

19.1 care programs providing out-of-home respite, as identified in section 245D.03, subdivision  
 19.2 1, paragraph (b), clause (1), is excluded from the delegation of authority to county and  
 19.3 private agencies.

19.4 (h) A county agency shall report to the commissioner, in a manner prescribed by the  
 19.5 commissioner, the following information for a licensed family child care program:

19.6 (1) the results of each licensing review completed, including the date of the review, and  
 19.7 any licensing correction order issued;

19.8 (2) any death, serious injury, or determination of substantiated maltreatment; and

19.9 (3) any fires that require the service of a fire department within 48 hours of the fire. The  
 19.10 information under this clause must also be reported to the state fire marshal within two  
 19.11 business days of receiving notice from a licensed family child care provider.

19.12 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

19.13 Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 245A.211, subdivision 4, is amended  
 19.14 to read:

19.15 Subd. 4. **Contraindicated physical restraints.** A license or certification holder must  
 19.16 not implement a restraint on a person receiving services in a program in a way that is  
 19.17 contraindicated for any of the person's known medical or psychological conditions. Prior  
 19.18 to using restraints on a person, ~~the license or certification holder must assess and document~~  
 19.19 ~~a determination of any~~ with a known medical or psychological conditions that restraints are  
 19.20 contraindicated for, the license or certification holder must document the contraindication  
 19.21 and the type of restraints that will not be used on the person based on this determination.

19.22 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

19.23 Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 245A.242, subdivision 2, is amended  
 19.24 to read:

19.25 Subd. 2. **Emergency overdose treatment.** (a) A license holder must maintain a supply  
 19.26 of opiate antagonists as defined in section 604A.04, subdivision 1, available for emergency  
 19.27 treatment of opioid overdose and must have a written standing order protocol by a physician  
 19.28 who is licensed under chapter 147, advanced practice registered nurse who is licensed under  
 19.29 chapter 148, or physician assistant who is licensed under chapter 147A, that permits the  
 19.30 license holder to maintain a supply of opiate antagonists on site. A license holder must  
 19.31 require staff to undergo training in the specific mode of administration used at the program,  
 19.32 which may include intranasal administration, intramuscular injection, or both.

20.1 (b) Notwithstanding any requirements to the contrary in Minnesota Rules, chapters 2960  
 20.2 and 9530, and Minnesota Statutes, chapters 245F, 245G, and 245I:

20.3 (1) emergency opiate antagonist medications are not required to be stored in a locked  
 20.4 area and staff and adult clients may carry this medication on them and store it in an unlocked  
 20.5 location;

20.6 (2) staff persons who only administer emergency opiate antagonist medications only  
 20.7 require the training required by paragraph (a), which any knowledgeable trainer may provide.  
 20.8 The trainer is not required to be a registered nurse or part of an accredited educational  
 20.9 institution; and

20.10 (3) nonresidential substance use disorder treatment programs that do not administer  
 20.11 client medications beyond emergency opiate antagonist medications are not required to  
 20.12 have the policies and procedures required in section 245G.08, subdivisions 5 and 6, and  
 20.13 must instead describe the program's procedures for administering opiate antagonist  
 20.14 medications in the license holder's description of health care services under section 245G.08,  
 20.15 subdivision 1.

20.16 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

20.17 Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 245A.52, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

20.18 Subd. 2. **Door to attached garage.** ~~Notwithstanding Minnesota Rules, part 9502.0425,~~  
 20.19 ~~subpart 5, day care residences with an attached garage are not required to have a self-closing~~  
 20.20 ~~door to the residence. The door to the residence may be~~ (a) If there is an opening between  
 20.21 an attached garage and a day care residence, there must be a door that is:

20.22 (1) a solid wood bonded-core door at least 1-3/8 inches thick;

20.23 (2) a steel insulated door ~~if the door is~~ at least 1-3/8 inches thick; or

20.24 (3) a door with a fire protection rating of 20 minutes.

20.25 (b) The separation wall on the garage side between the residence and garage must consist  
 20.26 of 1/2-inch-thick gypsum wallboard or its equivalent.

20.27 Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 245A.52, is amended by adding a subdivision  
 20.28 to read:

20.29 Subd. 8. **Stairways.** (a) All stairways must meet the requirements in this subdivision.

20.30 (b) Stairways of four or more steps must have handrails on at least one side.

21.1 (c) Any open area between the handrail and stair tread must be enclosed with a protective  
21.2 guardrail as specified in the State Building Code. At open risers, openings located more  
21.3 than 30 inches or 762 millimeters as measured vertically to the floor or grade below must  
21.4 not permit the passage of a sphere four inches or 102 millimeters in diameter.

21.5 (d) Gates or barriers must be used when children aged six to 18 months are in care.

21.6 (e) Stairways must be well lit, in good repair, and free of clutter and obstructions.

21.7 Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 245C.02, subdivision 13e, is  
21.8 amended to read:

21.9 Subd. 13e. **NETStudy 2.0.** (a) "NETStudy 2.0" means the commissioner's system that  
21.10 replaces both NETStudy and the department's internal background study processing system.  
21.11 NETStudy 2.0 is designed to enhance protection of children and vulnerable adults by  
21.12 improving the accuracy of background studies through fingerprint-based criminal record  
21.13 checks and expanding the background studies to include a review of information from the  
21.14 Minnesota Court Information System and the national crime information database. NETStudy  
21.15 2.0 is also designed to increase efficiencies in and the speed of the hiring process by:

21.16 (1) providing access to and updates from public web-based data related to employment  
21.17 eligibility;

21.18 (2) decreasing the need for repeat studies through electronic updates of background  
21.19 study subjects' criminal records;

21.20 (3) supporting identity verification using subjects' Social Security numbers and  
21.21 photographs;

21.22 (4) using electronic employer notifications;

21.23 (5) issuing immediate verification of subjects' eligibility to provide services as more  
21.24 studies are completed under the NETStudy 2.0 system; and

21.25 (6) providing electronic access to certain notices for entities and background study  
21.26 subjects.

21.27 (b) Information obtained by entities from public web-based data through NETStudy 2.0  
21.28 under paragraph (a), clause (1), or any other source that is not direct correspondence from  
21.29 the commissioner is not a notice of disqualification from the commissioner under this  
21.30 chapter.

22.1 Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 245C.03, is amended by adding a subdivision  
22.2 to read:

22.3 Subd. 16. **Individuals affiliated with a Head Start program.** When initiated by the  
22.4 Head Start program, including Tribal Head Start programs, the commissioner shall conduct  
22.5 a background study on:

22.6 (1) any individual who is affiliated with a Head Start program; and

22.7 (2) any individual age 13 and over living in the household where the Head Start program  
22.8 services will be provided who is not receiving services from the program.

22.9 Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 245C.033, subdivision 3, is amended  
22.10 to read:

22.11 Subd. 3. **Procedure; maltreatment and state licensing agency data.** (a) For requests  
22.12 paid directly by the guardian or conservator, requests for maltreatment and state licensing  
22.13 agency data checks must be submitted by the guardian or conservator to the commissioner  
22.14 on the form or in the manner prescribed by the commissioner. Upon receipt of a signed  
22.15 informed consent and payment under section 245C.10, the commissioner shall complete  
22.16 the maltreatment and state licensing agency checks. Upon completion of the checks, the  
22.17 commissioner shall provide the requested information to the courts on the form or in the  
22.18 manner prescribed by the commissioner.

22.19 (b) For requests paid by the court based on the in forma pauperis status of the guardian  
22.20 or conservator, requests for maltreatment and state licensing agency data checks must be  
22.21 submitted by the court to the commissioner on the form or in the manner prescribed by the  
22.22 commissioner. The form will serve as certification that the individual has been granted in  
22.23 forma pauperis status. Upon receipt of a signed data request consent form from the court,  
22.24 the commissioner shall initiate the maltreatment and state licensing agency checks. Upon  
22.25 completion of the checks, the commissioner shall provide the requested information to the  
22.26 courts on the form or in the manner prescribed by the commissioner.

22.27 Sec. 20. [245C.041] **EMERGENCY WAIVER TO TEMPORARILY MODIFY**  
22.28 **BACKGROUND STUDY REQUIREMENTS.**

22.29 (a) In the event of an emergency identified by the commissioner, the commissioner may  
22.30 temporarily waive or modify provisions in this chapter, except that the commissioner shall  
22.31 not waive or modify:

22.32 (1) disqualification standards in section 245C.14 or 245C; or

23.1 (2) any provision regarding the scope of individuals required to be subject to a background  
 23.2 study conducted under this chapter.

23.3 (b) For the purposes of this section, an emergency may include, but is not limited to a  
 23.4 public health emergency, environmental emergency, natural disaster, or other unplanned  
 23.5 event that the commissioner has determined prevents the requirements in this chapter from  
 23.6 being met. This authority shall not exceed the amount of time needed to respond to the  
 23.7 emergency and reinstate the requirements of this chapter. The commissioner has the authority  
 23.8 to establish the process and time frame for returning to full compliance with this chapter.  
 23.9 The commissioner shall determine the length of time an emergency study is valid.

23.10 (c) At the conclusion of the emergency, entities must submit a new, compliant background  
 23.11 study application and fee for each individual who was the subject of background study  
 23.12 affected by the powers created in this section, referred to as an "emergency study" to have  
 23.13 a new study that fully complies with this chapter within a time frame and notice period  
 23.14 established by the commissioner.

23.15 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

23.16 Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 245C.05, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

23.17 **Subd. 5. Fingerprints and photograph.** (a) Notwithstanding paragraph ~~(b)~~ (c), for  
 23.18 background studies conducted by the commissioner for child foster care, children's residential  
 23.19 facilities, adoptions, or a transfer of permanent legal and physical custody of a child, the  
 23.20 subject of the background study, who is 18 years of age or older, shall provide the  
 23.21 commissioner with a set of classifiable fingerprints obtained from an authorized agency for  
 23.22 a national criminal history record check.

23.23 (b) Notwithstanding paragraph (c), for background studies conducted by the commissioner  
 23.24 for Head Start programs, the subject of the background study shall provide the commissioner  
 23.25 with a set of classifiable fingerprints obtained from an authorized agency for a national  
 23.26 criminal history record check.

23.27 ~~(b)~~ (c) For background studies initiated on or after the implementation of NETStudy  
 23.28 2.0, except as provided under subdivision 5a, every subject of a background study must  
 23.29 provide the commissioner with a set of the background study subject's classifiable fingerprints  
 23.30 and photograph. The photograph and fingerprints must be recorded at the same time by the  
 23.31 authorized fingerprint collection vendor or vendors and sent to the commissioner through  
 23.32 the commissioner's secure data system described in section 245C.32, subdivision 1a,  
 23.33 paragraph (b).

24.1 (e) ~~(d)~~ The fingerprints shall be submitted by the commissioner to the Bureau of Criminal  
 24.2 Apprehension and, when specifically required by law, submitted to the Federal Bureau of  
 24.3 Investigation for a national criminal history record check.

24.4 ~~(d)~~ ~~(e)~~ The fingerprints must not be retained by the Department of Public Safety, Bureau  
 24.5 of Criminal Apprehension, or the commissioner. The Federal Bureau of Investigation will  
 24.6 not retain background study subjects' fingerprints.

24.7 (e) ~~(f)~~ The authorized fingerprint collection vendor or vendors shall, for purposes of  
 24.8 verifying the identity of the background study subject, be able to view the identifying  
 24.9 information entered into NETStudy 2.0 by the entity that initiated the background study,  
 24.10 but shall not retain the subject's fingerprints, photograph, or information from NETStudy  
 24.11 2.0. The authorized fingerprint collection vendor or vendors shall retain no more than the  
 24.12 name and date and time the subject's fingerprints were recorded and sent, only as necessary  
 24.13 for auditing and billing activities.

24.14 ~~(f)~~ ~~(g)~~ For any background study conducted under this chapter, the subject shall provide  
 24.15 the commissioner with a set of classifiable fingerprints when the commissioner has reasonable  
 24.16 cause to require a national criminal history record check as defined in section 245C.02,  
 24.17 subdivision 15a.

24.18 Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 245C.08, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

24.19 Subd. 4. **Juvenile court records.** (a) For a background study conducted by the  
 24.20 Department of Human Services, the commissioner shall review records from the juvenile  
 24.21 courts for an individual studied under ~~section 245C.03, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), this~~  
 24.22 chapter when the commissioner has reasonable cause.

24.23 ~~(b) For a background study conducted by a county agency for family child care before~~  
 24.24 ~~the implementation of NETStudy 2.0, the commissioner shall review records from the~~  
 24.25 ~~juvenile courts for individuals listed in section 245C.03, subdivision 1, who are ages 13~~  
 24.26 ~~through 23 living in the household where the licensed services will be provided. The~~  
 24.27 ~~commissioner shall also review records from juvenile courts for any other individual listed~~  
 24.28 ~~under section 245C.03, subdivision 1, when the commissioner has reasonable cause.~~

24.29 ~~(e)~~ ~~(b)~~ The juvenile courts shall help with the study by giving the commissioner existing  
 24.30 juvenile court records relating to delinquency proceedings held on individuals ~~described in~~  
 24.31 section 245C.03, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), who are subjects of studies under this chapter  
 24.32 when requested pursuant to this subdivision.

25.1 ~~(d)~~ (c) For purposes of this chapter, a finding that a delinquency petition is proven in  
25.2 juvenile court shall be considered a conviction in state district court.

25.3 ~~(e)~~ (d) Juvenile courts shall provide orders of involuntary and voluntary termination of  
25.4 parental rights under section 260C.301 to the commissioner upon request for purposes of  
25.5 conducting a background study under this chapter.

25.6 Sec. 23. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 245C.10, subdivision 15, is amended  
25.7 to read:

25.8 Subd. 15. **Guardians and conservators.** (a) The commissioner shall recover the cost  
25.9 of conducting maltreatment and state licensing agency checks for guardians and conservators  
25.10 under section 245C.033 through a fee of no more than \$50. The fees collected under this  
25.11 subdivision are appropriated to the commissioner for the purpose of conducting maltreatment  
25.12 and state licensing agency checks.

25.13 (b) The fee must be paid directly to and in the manner prescribed by the commissioner  
25.14 before any maltreatment and state licensing agency checks under section 245C.033 may be  
25.15 conducted.

25.16 (c) Notwithstanding paragraph (b), the court shall pay the fee for an applicant who has  
25.17 been granted in forma pauperis status upon receipt of the invoice from the commissioner.

25.18 Sec. 24. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 245C.10, subdivision 18, is amended to read:

25.19 Subd. 18. **Applicants, licensees, and other occupations regulated by commissioner**  
25.20 **of health.** The applicant or license holder is responsible for paying to the Department of  
25.21 Human Services all fees associated with the preparation of the fingerprints, the criminal  
25.22 records check consent form, and, through a fee of no more than \$44 per study, the criminal  
25.23 background check.

25.24 Sec. 25. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 245C.14, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

25.25 Subdivision 1. **Disqualification from direct contact.** (a) The commissioner shall  
25.26 disqualify an individual who is the subject of a background study from any position allowing  
25.27 direct contact with persons receiving services from the license holder or entity identified in  
25.28 section 245C.03, upon receipt of information showing, or when a background study  
25.29 completed under this chapter shows any of the following:

26.1 (1) a conviction of, admission to, or Alford plea to one or more crimes listed in section  
26.2 245C.15, regardless of whether the conviction or admission is a felony, gross misdemeanor,  
26.3 or misdemeanor level crime;

26.4 (2) a preponderance of the evidence indicates the individual has committed an act or  
26.5 acts that meet the definition of any of the crimes listed in section 245C.15, regardless of  
26.6 whether the preponderance of the evidence is for a felony, gross misdemeanor, or  
26.7 misdemeanor level crime; ~~or~~

26.8 (3) an investigation results in an administrative determination listed under section  
26.9 245C.15, subdivision 4, paragraph (b); or

26.10 (4) the individual's parental rights have been terminated under section 260C.301,  
26.11 subdivision 1, paragraph (b), or if the individual consented to a termination of parental rights  
26.12 under section 260C.301, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), to settle a petition to involuntarily  
26.13 terminate parental rights.

26.14 (b) No individual who is disqualified following a background study under section  
26.15 245C.03, subdivisions 1 and 2, may be retained in a position involving direct contact with  
26.16 persons served by a program or entity identified in section 245C.03, unless the commissioner  
26.17 has provided written notice under section 245C.17 stating that:

26.18 (1) the individual may remain in direct contact during the period in which the individual  
26.19 may request reconsideration as provided in section 245C.21, subdivision 2;

26.20 (2) the commissioner has set aside the individual's disqualification for that program or  
26.21 entity identified in section 245C.03, as provided in section 245C.22, subdivision 4; or

26.22 (3) the license holder has been granted a variance for the disqualified individual under  
26.23 section 245C.30.

26.24 (c) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), for the purposes of a background study affiliated  
26.25 with a licensed family foster setting, the commissioner shall disqualify an individual who  
26.26 is the subject of a background study from any position allowing direct contact with persons  
26.27 receiving services from the license holder or entity identified in section 245C.03, upon  
26.28 receipt of information showing or when a background study completed under this chapter  
26.29 shows reason for disqualification under section 245C.15, subdivision 4a.

27.1 Sec. 26. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 245C.14, is amended by adding a subdivision  
27.2 to read:

27.3 Subd. 5. **Basis for disqualification.** Information obtained by entities from public  
27.4 web-based data through NETStudy 2.0 or any other source that is not direct correspondence  
27.5 from the commissioner is not a notice of disqualification from the commissioner under this  
27.6 chapter.

27.7 Sec. 27. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 245C.15, subdivision 2, is amended  
27.8 to read:

27.9 Subd. 2. **15-year disqualification.** (a) An individual is disqualified under section 245C.14  
27.10 if: (1) less than 15 years have passed since the discharge of the sentence imposed, if any,  
27.11 for the offense; and (2) the individual has committed a felony-level violation of any of the  
27.12 following offenses: sections 152.021, subdivision 1 or 2b, (aggravated controlled substance  
27.13 crime in the first degree; sale crimes); 152.022, subdivision 1 (controlled substance crime  
27.14 in the second degree; sale crimes); 152.023, subdivision 1 (controlled substance crime in  
27.15 the third degree; sale crimes); 152.024, subdivision 1 (controlled substance crime in the  
27.16 fourth degree; sale crimes); 169A.24 (first-degree driving while impaired); 256.98  
27.17 (wrongfully obtaining assistance); 260B.425 (criminal jurisdiction for contributing to status  
27.18 as a juvenile petty offender or delinquency); 260C.425 (criminal jurisdiction for contributing  
27.19 to need for protection or services); 268.182 (fraud); 393.07, subdivision 10, paragraph (c)  
27.20 (federal SNAP fraud); 518B.01, subdivision 14 (violation of an order for protection); 609.165  
27.21 (felon ineligible to possess firearm); 609.2112, 609.2113, or 609.2114 (criminal vehicular  
27.22 homicide or injury); 609.215 (suicide); 609.223 or 609.2231 (assault in the third or fourth  
27.23 degree); repeat offenses under 609.224 (assault in the fifth degree); 609.2241 (knowing  
27.24 transfer of communicable disease); 609.229 (crimes committed for benefit of a gang);  
27.25 609.2325 (criminal abuse of a vulnerable adult); 609.2335 (financial exploitation of a  
27.26 vulnerable adult); 609.235 (use of drugs to injure or facilitate crime); 609.24 (simple  
27.27 robbery); 609.247, subdivision 4 (carjacking in the third degree); 609.255 (false  
27.28 imprisonment); 609.2664 (manslaughter of an unborn child in the first degree); 609.2665  
27.29 (manslaughter of an unborn child in the second degree); 609.267 (assault of an unborn child  
27.30 in the first degree); 609.2671 (assault of an unborn child in the second degree); 609.268  
27.31 (injury or death of an unborn child in the commission of a crime); 609.27 (coercion); 609.275  
27.32 (attempt to coerce); 609.466 (medical assistance fraud); 609.495 (aiding an offender);  
27.33 609.498, subdivision 1 or 1b (aggravated first-degree or first-degree tampering with a  
27.34 witness); 609.52 (theft); 609.521 (possession of shoplifting gear); 609.522 (organized retail  
27.35 theft); 609.525 (bringing stolen goods into Minnesota); 609.527 (identity theft); 609.528

28.1 (possession or sale of stolen or counterfeit check); 609.529 (mail theft); 609.53 (receiving  
 28.2 stolen property); 609.535 (issuance of dishonored checks); 609.562 (arson in the second  
 28.3 degree); 609.563 (arson in the third degree); 609.582 (burglary); 609.59 (possession of  
 28.4 burglary tools); 609.611 (insurance fraud); 609.625 (aggravated forgery); 609.63 (forgery);  
 28.5 609.631 (check forgery; offering a forged check); 609.632 (counterfeiting of currency);  
 28.6 609.635 (obtaining signature by false pretense); 609.651 (state lottery fraud); 609.66  
 28.7 (dangerous weapons); 609.668 (explosive and incendiary devices); 609.67 (machine guns  
 28.8 and short-barreled shotguns); 609.687 (adulteration); 609.71 (riot); 609.713 (terroristic  
 28.9 threats); 609.746 (interference with privacy); 609.748 (harassment; restraining order); 609.78  
 28.10 (emergency telephone calls and communication); 609.82 (fraud in obtaining credit); 609.821  
 28.11 (financial transaction card fraud); 609.89 (computer or electronic data theft); 609.903  
 28.12 (racketeering); 617.23 (indecent exposure), not involving a minor; repeat offenses under  
 28.13 617.241 (obscene materials and performances; distribution and exhibition prohibited;  
 28.14 penalty); ~~or~~ 624.713 (certain persons not to possess firearms); or 629.75 (domestic abuse  
 28.15 no contact order).

28.16 (b) An individual is disqualified under section 245C.14 if less than 15 years has passed  
 28.17 since the individual's aiding and abetting, attempt, or conspiracy to commit any of the  
 28.18 offenses listed in paragraph (a), as each of these offenses is defined in Minnesota Statutes.

28.19 (c) An individual is disqualified under section 245C.14 if less than 15 years has passed  
 28.20 since the termination of the individual's parental rights under section 260C.301, subdivision  
 28.21 1, paragraph (b), ~~or subdivision 3~~ or since the individual consented to a termination of  
 28.22 parental rights under section 260C.301, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), to settle a petition to  
 28.23 involuntarily terminate parental rights.

28.24 (d) An individual is disqualified under section 245C.14 if less than 15 years has passed  
 28.25 since the discharge of the sentence imposed for an offense in any other state or country, the  
 28.26 elements of which are substantially similar to the elements of the offenses listed in paragraph  
 28.27 (a) or since the termination of parental rights in any other state or country, the elements of  
 28.28 which are substantially similar to the elements listed in paragraph (c).

28.29 (e) If the individual studied commits one of the offenses listed in paragraph (a), but the  
 28.30 sentence or level of offense is a gross misdemeanor or misdemeanor, the individual is  
 28.31 disqualified but the disqualification look-back period for the offense is the period applicable  
 28.32 to the gross misdemeanor or misdemeanor disposition.

28.33 (f) When a disqualification is based on a judicial determination other than a conviction,  
 28.34 the disqualification period begins from the date of the court order. When a disqualification

29.1 is based on an admission, the disqualification period begins from the date of an admission  
 29.2 in court. When a disqualification is based on an Alford Plea, the disqualification period  
 29.3 begins from the date the Alford Plea is entered in court. When a disqualification is based  
 29.4 on a preponderance of evidence of a disqualifying act, the disqualification date begins from  
 29.5 the date of the dismissal, the date of discharge of the sentence imposed for a conviction for  
 29.6 a disqualifying crime of similar elements, or the date of the incident, whichever occurs last.

29.7 Sec. 28. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 245C.15, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

29.8 Subd. 3. **Ten-year disqualification.** (a) An individual is disqualified under section  
 29.9 245C.14 if: (1) less than ten years have passed since the discharge of the sentence imposed,  
 29.10 if any, for the offense; and (2) the individual has committed a gross misdemeanor-level  
 29.11 violation of any of the following offenses: sections 256.98 (wrongfully obtaining assistance);  
 29.12 260B.425 (criminal jurisdiction for contributing to status as a juvenile petty offender or  
 29.13 delinquency); 260C.425 (criminal jurisdiction for contributing to need for protection or  
 29.14 services); 268.182 (fraud); 393.07, subdivision 10, paragraph (c) (federal SNAP fraud);  
 29.15 609.2112, 609.2113, or 609.2114 (criminal vehicular homicide or injury); 609.221 or 609.222  
 29.16 (assault in the first or second degree); 609.223 or 609.2231 (assault in the third or fourth  
 29.17 degree); 609.224 (assault in the fifth degree); 609.2241 (knowing transfer of communicable  
 29.18 disease); 609.224, subdivision 2, paragraph (c) (assault in the fifth degree by a caregiver  
 29.19 against a vulnerable adult); 609.2242 and 609.2243 (domestic assault); 609.23 (mistreatment  
 29.20 of persons confined); 609.231 (mistreatment of residents or patients); 609.2325 (criminal  
 29.21 abuse of a vulnerable adult); 609.233 (criminal neglect of a vulnerable adult); 609.2335  
 29.22 (financial exploitation of a vulnerable adult); 609.234 (failure to report maltreatment of a  
 29.23 vulnerable adult); 609.265 (abduction); 609.275 (attempt to coerce); 609.324, subdivision  
 29.24 1a (other prohibited acts; minor engaged in prostitution); 609.33 (disorderly house); 609.377  
 29.25 (malicious punishment of a child); 609.378 (neglect or endangerment of a child); 609.466  
 29.26 (medical assistance fraud); 609.52 (theft); 609.522 (organized retail theft); 609.525 (bringing  
 29.27 stolen goods into Minnesota); 609.527 (identity theft); 609.528 (possession or sale of stolen  
 29.28 or counterfeit check); 609.529 (mail theft); 609.53 (receiving stolen property); 609.535  
 29.29 (issuance of dishonored checks); 609.582 (burglary); 609.59 (possession of burglary tools);  
 29.30 609.611 (insurance fraud); 609.631 (check forgery; offering a forged check); 609.632  
 29.31 (counterfeiting of currency); 609.651 (state lottery fraud); 609.66 (dangerous weapons);  
 29.32 609.668 (explosive and incendiary devices); 609.71 (riot); 609.72, subdivision 3 (disorderly  
 29.33 conduct against a vulnerable adult); repeat offenses under 609.746 (interference with privacy);  
 29.34 609.748 (harassment; restraining order); 609.749, subdivision 2 (harassment); 609.78  
 29.35 (emergency telephone calls and communication); 609.82 (fraud in obtaining credit); 609.821

30.1 (financial transaction card fraud); 609.89 (computer or electronic data theft); 609.903  
 30.2 (racketeering); 617.23 (indecent exposure), not involving a minor; 617.241 (obscene materials  
 30.3 and performances); 617.243 (indecent literature, distribution); 617.293 (harmful materials;  
 30.4 dissemination and display to minors prohibited); or Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 609.21;  
 30.5 ~~or~~ violation of an order for protection under section 518B.01, subdivision 14; or 629.75  
 30.6 (domestic abuse no contact order).

30.7 (b) An individual is disqualified under section 245C.14 if less than ten years has passed  
 30.8 since the individual's aiding and abetting, attempt, or conspiracy to commit any of the  
 30.9 offenses listed in paragraph (a), as each of these offenses is defined in Minnesota Statutes.

30.10 (c) An individual is disqualified under section 245C.14 if less than ten years has passed  
 30.11 since the discharge of the sentence imposed for an offense in any other state or country, the  
 30.12 elements of which are substantially similar to the elements of any of the offenses listed in  
 30.13 paragraph (a).

30.14 (d) If the individual studied commits one of the offenses listed in paragraph (a), but the  
 30.15 sentence or level of offense is a misdemeanor disposition, the individual is disqualified but  
 30.16 the disqualification lookback period for the offense is the period applicable to misdemeanors.

30.17 (e) When a disqualification is based on a judicial determination other than a conviction,  
 30.18 the disqualification period begins from the date of the court order. When a disqualification  
 30.19 is based on an admission, the disqualification period begins from the date of an admission  
 30.20 in court. When a disqualification is based on an Alford Plea, the disqualification period  
 30.21 begins from the date the Alford Plea is entered in court. When a disqualification is based  
 30.22 on a preponderance of evidence of a disqualifying act, the disqualification date begins from  
 30.23 the date of the dismissal, the date of discharge of the sentence imposed for a conviction for  
 30.24 a disqualifying crime of similar elements, or the date of the incident, whichever occurs last.

30.25 Sec. 29. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 245C.15, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

30.26 Subd. 4. **Seven-year disqualification.** (a) An individual is disqualified under section  
 30.27 245C.14 if: (1) less than seven years has passed since the discharge of the sentence imposed,  
 30.28 if any, for the offense; and (2) the individual has committed a misdemeanor-level violation  
 30.29 of any of the following offenses: sections 256.98 (wrongfully obtaining assistance); 260B.425  
 30.30 (criminal jurisdiction for contributing to status as a juvenile petty offender or delinquency);  
 30.31 260C.425 (criminal jurisdiction for contributing to need for protection or services); 268.182  
 30.32 (fraud); 393.07, subdivision 10, paragraph (c) (federal SNAP fraud); 609.2112, 609.2113,  
 30.33 or 609.2114 (criminal vehicular homicide or injury); 609.221 (assault in the first degree);  
 30.34 609.222 (assault in the second degree); 609.223 (assault in the third degree); 609.2231

31.1 (assault in the fourth degree); 609.224 (assault in the fifth degree); 609.2241 (knowing  
 31.2 transfer of communicable disease); 609.2242 (domestic assault); 609.2335 (financial  
 31.3 exploitation of a vulnerable adult); 609.234 (failure to report maltreatment of a vulnerable  
 31.4 adult); 609.2672 (assault of an unborn child in the third degree); 609.27 (coercion); violation  
 31.5 of an order for protection under 609.3232 (protective order authorized; procedures; penalties);  
 31.6 609.466 (medical assistance fraud); 609.52 (theft); 609.522 (organized retail theft); 609.525  
 31.7 (bringing stolen goods into Minnesota); 609.527 (identity theft); 609.528 (possession or  
 31.8 sale of stolen or counterfeit check); 609.529 (mail theft); 609.53 (receiving stolen property);  
 31.9 609.535 (issuance of dishonored checks); 609.611 (insurance fraud); 609.632 (counterfeiting  
 31.10 of currency); 609.651 (state lottery fraud); 609.66 (dangerous weapons); 609.665 (spring  
 31.11 guns); 609.668 (explosive and incendiary devices); 609.746 (interference with privacy);  
 31.12 609.748 (harassment; restraining order); 609.78 (emergency telephone calls and  
 31.13 communication); 609.79 (obscene or harassing telephone calls); 609.795 (letter, telegram,  
 31.14 or package; opening; harassment); 609.82 (fraud in obtaining credit); 609.821 (financial  
 31.15 transaction card fraud); 609.89 (computer or electronic data theft); 609.903 (racketeering);  
 31.16 617.23 (indecent exposure), not involving a minor; 617.293 (harmful materials; dissemination  
 31.17 and display to minors prohibited); or Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 609.21; ~~or~~ violation  
 31.18 of an order for protection under section 518B.01 (Domestic Abuse Act); or 629.75 (domestic  
 31.19 abuse no contact order).

31.20 (b) An individual is disqualified under section 245C.14 if less than seven years has  
 31.21 passed since a determination or disposition of the individual's:

31.22 (1) failure to make required reports under section 260E.06 or 626.557, subdivision 3,  
 31.23 for incidents in which: (i) the final disposition under section 626.557 or chapter 260E was  
 31.24 substantiated maltreatment, and (ii) the maltreatment was recurring or serious; or

31.25 (2) substantiated serious or recurring maltreatment of a minor under chapter 260E, a  
 31.26 vulnerable adult under section 626.557, or serious or recurring maltreatment in any other  
 31.27 state, the elements of which are substantially similar to the elements of maltreatment under  
 31.28 section 626.557 or chapter 260E for which: (i) there is a preponderance of evidence that  
 31.29 the maltreatment occurred, and (ii) the subject was responsible for the maltreatment.

31.30 (c) An individual is disqualified under section 245C.14 if less than seven years has  
 31.31 passed since the individual's aiding and abetting, attempt, or conspiracy to commit any of  
 31.32 the offenses listed in paragraphs (a) and (b), as each of these offenses is defined in Minnesota  
 31.33 Statutes.

32.1 (d) An individual is disqualified under section 245C.14 if less than seven years has  
 32.2 passed since the discharge of the sentence imposed for an offense in any other state or  
 32.3 country, the elements of which are substantially similar to the elements of any of the offenses  
 32.4 listed in paragraphs (a) and (b).

32.5 (e) When a disqualification is based on a judicial determination other than a conviction,  
 32.6 the disqualification period begins from the date of the court order. When a disqualification  
 32.7 is based on an admission, the disqualification period begins from the date of an admission  
 32.8 in court. When a disqualification is based on an Alford Plea, the disqualification period  
 32.9 begins from the date the Alford Plea is entered in court. When a disqualification is based  
 32.10 on a preponderance of evidence of a disqualifying act, the disqualification date begins from  
 32.11 the date of the dismissal, the date of discharge of the sentence imposed for a conviction for  
 32.12 a disqualifying crime of similar elements, or the date of the incident, whichever occurs last.

32.13 (f) An individual is disqualified under section 245C.14 if less than seven years has passed  
 32.14 since the individual was disqualified under section 256.98, subdivision 8.

32.15 Sec. 30. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 245C.15, subdivision 4a, is amended  
 32.16 to read:

32.17 Subd. 4a. **Licensed family foster setting disqualifications.** (a) Notwithstanding  
 32.18 subdivisions 1 to 4, for a background study affiliated with a licensed family foster setting,  
 32.19 regardless of how much time has passed, an individual is disqualified under section 245C.14  
 32.20 if the individual committed an act that resulted in a felony-level conviction for sections:  
 32.21 609.185 (murder in the first degree); 609.19 (murder in the second degree); 609.195 (murder  
 32.22 in the third degree); 609.20 (manslaughter in the first degree); 609.205 (manslaughter in  
 32.23 the second degree); 609.2112 (criminal vehicular homicide); 609.221 (assault in the first  
 32.24 degree); 609.223, subdivision 2 (assault in the third degree, past pattern of child abuse);  
 32.25 609.223, subdivision 3 (assault in the third degree, victim under four); a felony offense  
 32.26 under sections 609.2242 and 609.2243 (domestic assault, spousal abuse, child abuse or  
 32.27 neglect, or a crime against children); 609.2247 (domestic assault by strangulation); 609.2325  
 32.28 (criminal abuse of a vulnerable adult resulting in the death of a vulnerable adult); 609.245  
 32.29 (aggravated robbery); 609.247, subdivision 2 or 3 (carjacking in the first or second degree);  
 32.30 609.25 (kidnapping); 609.255 (false imprisonment); 609.2661 (murder of an unborn child  
 32.31 in the first degree); 609.2662 (murder of an unborn child in the second degree); 609.2663  
 32.32 (murder of an unborn child in the third degree); 609.2664 (manslaughter of an unborn child  
 32.33 in the first degree); 609.2665 (manslaughter of an unborn child in the second degree);  
 32.34 609.267 (assault of an unborn child in the first degree); 609.2671 (assault of an unborn child

33.1 in the second degree); 609.268 (injury or death of an unborn child in the commission of a  
33.2 crime); 609.322, subdivision 1 (solicitation, inducement, and promotion of prostitution; sex  
33.3 trafficking in the first degree); 609.324, subdivision 1 (other prohibited acts; engaging in,  
33.4 hiring, or agreeing to hire minor to engage in prostitution); 609.342 (criminal sexual conduct  
33.5 in the first degree); 609.343 (criminal sexual conduct in the second degree); 609.344 (criminal  
33.6 sexual conduct in the third degree); 609.345 (criminal sexual conduct in the fourth degree);  
33.7 609.3451 (criminal sexual conduct in the fifth degree); 609.3453 (criminal sexual predatory  
33.8 conduct); 609.3458 (sexual extortion); 609.352 (solicitation of children to engage in sexual  
33.9 conduct); 609.377 (malicious punishment of a child); 609.378 (neglect or endangerment of  
33.10 a child); 609.561 (arson in the first degree); 609.582, subdivision 1 (burglary in the first  
33.11 degree); 609.746 (interference with privacy); 617.23 (indecent exposure); 617.246 (use of  
33.12 minors in sexual performance prohibited); or 617.247 (possession of pictorial representations  
33.13 of minors).

33.14 (b) Notwithstanding subdivisions 1 to 4, for the purposes of a background study affiliated  
33.15 with a licensed family foster setting, an individual is disqualified under section 245C.14,  
33.16 regardless of how much time has passed, if the individual:

33.17 (1) committed an action under paragraph (e) that resulted in death or involved sexual  
33.18 abuse, as defined in section 260E.03, subdivision 20;

33.19 (2) committed an act that resulted in a gross misdemeanor-level conviction for section  
33.20 609.3451 (criminal sexual conduct in the fifth degree);

33.21 (3) committed an act against or involving a minor that resulted in a felony-level conviction  
33.22 for: section 609.222 (assault in the second degree); 609.223, subdivision 1 (assault in the  
33.23 third degree); 609.2231 (assault in the fourth degree); or 609.224 (assault in the fifth degree);  
33.24 or

33.25 (4) committed an act that resulted in a misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor-level  
33.26 conviction for section 617.293 (dissemination and display of harmful materials to minors).

33.27 (c) Notwithstanding subdivisions 1 to 4, for a background study affiliated with a licensed  
33.28 family foster setting, an individual is disqualified under section 245C.14 if fewer than 20  
33.29 years have passed since the termination of the individual's parental rights under section  
33.30 260C.301, subdivision 1, paragraph (b), or if the individual consented to a termination of  
33.31 parental rights under section 260C.301, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), to settle a petition to  
33.32 involuntarily terminate parental rights. An individual is disqualified under section 245C.14  
33.33 if fewer than 20 years have passed since the termination of the individual's parental rights  
33.34 in any other state or country, where the conditions for the individual's termination of parental

34.1 rights are substantially similar to the conditions in section 260C.301, subdivision 1, paragraph  
34.2 (b).

34.3 (d) Notwithstanding subdivisions 1 to 4, for a background study affiliated with a licensed  
34.4 family foster setting, an individual is disqualified under section 245C.14 if fewer than five  
34.5 years have passed since a felony-level violation for sections: 152.021 (controlled substance  
34.6 crime in the first degree); 152.022 (controlled substance crime in the second degree); 152.023  
34.7 (controlled substance crime in the third degree); 152.024 (controlled substance crime in the  
34.8 fourth degree); 152.025 (controlled substance crime in the fifth degree); 152.0261 (importing  
34.9 controlled substances across state borders); 152.0262, subdivision 1, paragraph (b)  
34.10 (possession of substance with intent to manufacture methamphetamine); 152.027, subdivision  
34.11 6, paragraph (c) (sale or possession of synthetic cannabinoids); 152.096 (conspiracies  
34.12 prohibited); 152.097 (simulated controlled substances); 152.136 (anhydrous ammonia;  
34.13 prohibited conduct; criminal penalties; civil liabilities); 152.137 (methamphetamine-related  
34.14 crimes involving children or vulnerable adults); 169A.24 (felony first-degree driving while  
34.15 impaired); 243.166 (violation of predatory offender registration requirements); 609.2113  
34.16 (criminal vehicular operation; bodily harm); 609.2114 (criminal vehicular operation; unborn  
34.17 child); 609.228 (great bodily harm caused by distribution of drugs); 609.2325 (criminal  
34.18 abuse of a vulnerable adult not resulting in the death of a vulnerable adult); 609.233 (criminal  
34.19 neglect); 609.235 (use of drugs to injure or facilitate a crime); 609.24 (simple robbery);  
34.20 609.247, subdivision 4 (carjacking in the third degree); 609.322, subdivision 1a (solicitation,  
34.21 inducement, and promotion of prostitution; sex trafficking in the second degree); 609.498,  
34.22 subdivision 1 (tampering with a witness in the first degree); 609.498, subdivision 1b  
34.23 (aggravated first-degree witness tampering); 609.562 (arson in the second degree); 609.563  
34.24 (arson in the third degree); 609.582, subdivision 2 (burglary in the second degree); 609.66  
34.25 (felony dangerous weapons); 609.687 (adulteration); 609.713 (terroristic threats); 609.749,  
34.26 subdivision 3, 4, or 5 (felony-level harassment or stalking); 609.855, subdivision 5 (shooting  
34.27 at or in a public transit vehicle or facility); or 624.713 (certain people not to possess firearms).

34.28 (e) Notwithstanding subdivisions 1 to 4, except as provided in paragraph (a), for a  
34.29 background study affiliated with a licensed family child foster care license, an individual  
34.30 is disqualified under section 245C.14 if fewer than five years have passed since:

34.31 (1) a felony-level violation for an act not against or involving a minor that constitutes:  
34.32 section 609.222 (assault in the second degree); 609.223, subdivision 1 (assault in the third  
34.33 degree); 609.2231 (assault in the fourth degree); or 609.224, subdivision 4 (assault in the  
34.34 fifth degree);

34.35 (2) a violation of an order for protection under section 518B.01, subdivision 14;

35.1 (3) a determination or disposition of the individual's failure to make required reports  
35.2 under section 260E.06 or 626.557, subdivision 3, for incidents in which the final disposition  
35.3 under chapter 260E or section 626.557 was substantiated maltreatment and the maltreatment  
35.4 was recurring or serious;

35.5 (4) a determination or disposition of the individual's substantiated serious or recurring  
35.6 maltreatment of a minor under chapter 260E, a vulnerable adult under section 626.557, or  
35.7 serious or recurring maltreatment in any other state, the elements of which are substantially  
35.8 similar to the elements of maltreatment under chapter 260E or section 626.557 and meet  
35.9 the definition of serious maltreatment or recurring maltreatment;

35.10 (5) a gross misdemeanor-level violation for sections: 609.224, subdivision 2 (assault in  
35.11 the fifth degree); 609.2242 and 609.2243 (domestic assault); 609.233 (criminal neglect);  
35.12 609.377 (malicious punishment of a child); 609.378 (neglect or endangerment of a child);  
35.13 609.746 (interference with privacy); 609.749 (stalking); or 617.23 (indecent exposure); or

35.14 (6) committing an act against or involving a minor that resulted in a misdemeanor-level  
35.15 violation of section 609.224, subdivision 1 (assault in the fifth degree).

35.16 (f) For purposes of this subdivision, the disqualification begins from:

35.17 (1) the date of the alleged violation, if the individual was not convicted;

35.18 (2) the date of conviction, if the individual was convicted of the violation but not  
35.19 committed to the custody of the commissioner of corrections; or

35.20 (3) the date of release from prison, if the individual was convicted of the violation and  
35.21 committed to the custody of the commissioner of corrections.

35.22 Notwithstanding clause (3), if the individual is subsequently reincarcerated for a violation  
35.23 of the individual's supervised release, the disqualification begins from the date of release  
35.24 from the subsequent incarceration.

35.25 (g) An individual's aiding and abetting, attempt, or conspiracy to commit any of the  
35.26 offenses listed in paragraphs (a) and (b), as each of these offenses is defined in Minnesota  
35.27 Statutes, permanently disqualifies the individual under section 245C.14. An individual is  
35.28 disqualified under section 245C.14 if fewer than five years have passed since the individual's  
35.29 aiding and abetting, attempt, or conspiracy to commit any of the offenses listed in paragraphs  
35.30 (d) and (e).

35.31 (h) An individual's offense in any other state or country, where the elements of the  
35.32 offense are substantially similar to any of the offenses listed in paragraphs (a) and (b),  
35.33 permanently disqualifies the individual under section 245C.14. An individual is disqualified

36.1 under section 245C.14 if fewer than five years have passed since an offense in any other  
36.2 state or country, the elements of which are substantially similar to the elements of any  
36.3 offense listed in paragraphs (d) and (e).

36.4 Sec. 31. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 245C.22, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

36.5 Subd. 4. **Risk of harm; set aside.** (a) The commissioner may set aside the disqualification  
36.6 if the commissioner finds that the individual has submitted sufficient information to  
36.7 demonstrate that the individual does not pose a risk of harm to any person served by the  
36.8 applicant, license holder, or other entities as provided in this chapter.

36.9 (b) In determining whether the individual has met the burden of proof by demonstrating  
36.10 the individual does not pose a risk of harm, the commissioner shall consider:

36.11 (1) the nature, severity, and consequences of the event or events that led to the  
36.12 disqualification;

36.13 (2) whether there is more than one disqualifying event;

36.14 (3) the age and vulnerability of the victim at the time of the event;

36.15 (4) the harm suffered by the victim;

36.16 (5) vulnerability of persons served by the program;

36.17 (6) the similarity between the victim and persons served by the program;

36.18 (7) the time elapsed without a repeat of the same or similar event;

36.19 (8) documentation of successful completion by the individual studied of training or  
36.20 rehabilitation pertinent to the event; and

36.21 (9) any other information relevant to reconsideration.

36.22 (c) For an individual seeking a child foster care license who is a relative of the child,  
36.23 the commissioner shall consider the importance of maintaining the child's relationship with  
36.24 relatives as an additional significant factor in determining whether a background study  
36.25 disqualification should be set aside.

36.26 ~~(e)~~ (d) If the individual requested reconsideration on the basis that the information relied  
36.27 upon to disqualify the individual was incorrect or inaccurate and the commissioner determines  
36.28 that the information relied upon to disqualify the individual is correct, the commissioner  
36.29 must also determine if the individual poses a risk of harm to persons receiving services in  
36.30 accordance with paragraph (b).

37.1 ~~(d)~~ (e) For an individual seeking employment in the substance use disorder treatment  
37.2 field, the commissioner shall set aside the disqualification if the following criteria are met:

37.3 (1) the individual is not disqualified for a crime of violence as listed under section  
37.4 624.712, subdivision 5, except for the following crimes: crimes listed under section 152.021,  
37.5 subdivision 2 or 2a; 152.022, subdivision 2; 152.023, subdivision 2; 152.024; or 152.025;

37.6 (2) the individual is not disqualified under section 245C.15, subdivision 1;

37.7 (3) the individual is not disqualified under section 245C.15, subdivision 4, paragraph  
37.8 (b);

37.9 (4) the individual provided documentation of successful completion of treatment, at least  
37.10 one year prior to the date of the request for reconsideration, at a program licensed under  
37.11 chapter 245G, and has had no disqualifying crimes or conduct under section 245C.15 after  
37.12 the successful completion of treatment;

37.13 (5) the individual provided documentation demonstrating abstinence from controlled  
37.14 substances, as defined in section 152.01, subdivision 4, for the period of one year prior to  
37.15 the date of the request for reconsideration; and

37.16 (6) the individual is seeking employment in the substance use disorder treatment field.

37.17 Sec. 32. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 245C.24, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

37.18 Subd. 2. **Permanent bar to set aside a disqualification.** (a) Except as provided in  
37.19 paragraphs (b) to ~~(f)~~ (g), the commissioner may not set aside the disqualification of any  
37.20 individual disqualified pursuant to this chapter, regardless of how much time has passed,  
37.21 if the individual was disqualified for a crime or conduct listed in section 245C.15, subdivision  
37.22 1.

37.23 (b) For an individual in the substance use disorder or corrections field who was  
37.24 disqualified for a crime or conduct listed under section 245C.15, subdivision 1, and whose  
37.25 disqualification was set aside prior to July 1, 2005, the commissioner must consider granting  
37.26 a variance pursuant to section 245C.30 for the license holder for a program dealing primarily  
37.27 with adults. A request for reconsideration evaluated under this paragraph must include a  
37.28 letter of recommendation from the license holder that was subject to the prior set-aside  
37.29 decision addressing the individual's quality of care to children or vulnerable adults and the  
37.30 circumstances of the individual's departure from that service.

37.31 (c) If an individual who requires a background study for nonemergency medical  
37.32 transportation services under section 245C.03, subdivision 12, was disqualified for a crime

38.1 or conduct listed under section 245C.15, subdivision 1, and if more than 40 years have  
38.2 passed since the discharge of the sentence imposed, the commissioner may consider granting  
38.3 a set-aside pursuant to section 245C.22. A request for reconsideration evaluated under this  
38.4 paragraph must include a letter of recommendation from the employer. This paragraph does  
38.5 not apply to a person disqualified based on a violation of sections 243.166; 609.185 to  
38.6 609.205; 609.25; 609.342 to 609.3453; 609.352; 617.23, subdivision 2, clause (1), or 3,  
38.7 clause (1); 617.246; or 617.247.

38.8 (d) When a licensed foster care provider adopts an individual who had received foster  
38.9 care services from the provider for over six months, and the adopted individual is required  
38.10 to receive a background study under section 245C.03, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause  
38.11 (2) or (6), the commissioner may grant a variance to the license holder under section 245C.30  
38.12 to permit the adopted individual with a permanent disqualification to remain affiliated with  
38.13 the license holder under the conditions of the variance when the variance is recommended  
38.14 by the county of responsibility for each of the remaining individuals in placement in the  
38.15 home and the licensing agency for the home.

38.16 (e) For an individual 18 years of age or older affiliated with a licensed family foster  
38.17 setting, the commissioner must not set aside or grant a variance for the disqualification of  
38.18 any individual disqualified pursuant to this chapter, regardless of how much time has passed,  
38.19 if the individual was disqualified for a crime or conduct listed in section 245C.15, subdivision  
38.20 4a, paragraphs (a) and (b).

38.21 (f) In connection with a family foster setting license, the commissioner may grant a  
38.22 variance to the disqualification for an individual who is under 18 years of age at the time  
38.23 the background study is submitted.

38.24 (g) In connection with foster residence settings and children's residential facilities, the  
38.25 commissioner must not set aside or grant a variance for the disqualification of any individual  
38.26 disqualified pursuant to this chapter, regardless of how much time has passed, if the individual  
38.27 was disqualified for a crime or conduct listed in section 245C.15, subdivision 4a, paragraph  
38.28 (a) or (b).

38.29 Sec. 33. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 245C.24, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

38.30 Subd. 5. **Five-year bar to set aside or variance disqualification; children's residential**  
38.31 **facilities, foster residence settings.** The commissioner shall not set aside or grant a variance  
38.32 for the disqualification of an individual in connection with a license for a children's residential  
38.33 facility or foster residence setting who was convicted of a felony within the past five years  
38.34 for: (1) physical assault or battery; or (2) a drug-related offense.

39.1 Sec. 34. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 245C.24, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

39.2 Subd. 6. **Five-year bar to set aside disqualification; family foster setting.** (a) The  
39.3 commissioner shall not set aside or grant a variance for the disqualification of an individual  
39.4 18 years of age or older in connection with a foster family setting license if within five years  
39.5 preceding the study the individual is convicted of a felony in section 245C.15, subdivision  
39.6 4a, paragraph (d).

39.7 (b) In connection with a foster family setting license, the commissioner may set aside  
39.8 or grant a variance to the disqualification for an individual who is under 18 years of age at  
39.9 the time the background study is submitted.

39.10 (c) In connection with a foster family setting license, the commissioner may set aside  
39.11 or grant a variance to the disqualification for an individual who is under 18 years of age at  
39.12 the time the background study is submitted.

39.13 Sec. 35. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 245C.30, is amended by adding a subdivision  
39.14 to read:

39.15 Subd. 1b. **Child foster care variances.** For an individual seeking a child foster care  
39.16 license who is a relative of the child, the commissioner shall consider the importance of  
39.17 maintaining the child's relationship with relatives as an additional significant factor in  
39.18 determining whether the individual should be granted a variance.

39.19 Sec. 36. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 245F.09, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

39.20 Subd. 2. **Protective procedures plan.** A license holder must have a written policy and  
39.21 procedure that establishes the protective procedures that program staff must follow when  
39.22 a patient is in imminent danger of harming self or others. The policy must be appropriate  
39.23 to the type of facility and the level of staff training. The protective procedures policy must  
39.24 include:

39.25 (1) an approval signed and dated by the program director and medical director prior to  
39.26 implementation. Any changes to the policy must also be approved, signed, and dated by the  
39.27 current program director and the medical director prior to implementation;

39.28 (2) which protective procedures the license holder will use to prevent patients from  
39.29 imminent danger of harming self or others;

39.30 (3) the emergency conditions under which the protective procedures are permitted to be  
39.31 used, if any;

- 40.1 (4) the patient's health conditions that limit the specific procedures that may be used and  
40.2 alternative means of ensuring safety;
- 40.3 (5) emergency resources the program staff must contact when a patient's behavior cannot  
40.4 be controlled by the procedures established in the policy;
- 40.5 (6) the training that staff must have before using any protective procedure;
- 40.6 (7) documentation of approved therapeutic holds;
- 40.7 (8) the use of law enforcement personnel as described in subdivision 4;
- 40.8 (9) standards governing emergency use of seclusion. Seclusion must be used only when  
40.9 less restrictive measures are ineffective or not feasible. The standards in items (i) to (vii)  
40.10 must be met when seclusion is used with a patient:
- 40.11 (i) seclusion must be employed solely for the purpose of preventing a patient from  
40.12 imminent danger of harming self or others;
- 40.13 (ii) seclusion rooms must be equipped in a manner that prevents patients from self-harm  
40.14 using projections, windows, electrical fixtures, or hard objects, and must allow the patient  
40.15 to be readily observed without being interrupted;
- 40.16 (iii) seclusion must be authorized by the program director, a licensed physician, a  
40.17 registered nurse, or a licensed physician assistant. If one of these individuals is not present  
40.18 in the facility, the program director or a licensed physician, registered nurse, or physician  
40.19 assistant must be contacted and authorization must be obtained within 30 minutes of initiating  
40.20 seclusion, according to written policies;
- 40.21 (iv) patients must not be placed in seclusion for more than 12 hours at any one time;
- 40.22 (v) once the condition of a patient in seclusion has been determined to be safe enough  
40.23 to end continuous observation, a patient in seclusion must be observed at a minimum of  
40.24 every 15 minutes for the duration of seclusion and must always be within hearing range of  
40.25 program staff;
- 40.26 (vi) a process for program staff to use to remove a patient to other resources available  
40.27 to the facility if seclusion does not sufficiently assure patient safety; and
- 40.28 (vii) a seclusion area may be used for other purposes, such as intensive observation, if  
40.29 the room meets normal standards of care for the purpose and if the room is not locked; and
- 40.30 (10) physical holds may only be used when less restrictive measures are not feasible.  
40.31 The standards in items (i) to (iv) must be met when physical holds are used with a patient:

41.1 (i) physical holds must be employed solely for preventing a patient from imminent  
41.2 danger of harming self or others;

41.3 (ii) physical holds must be authorized by the program director, a licensed physician, a  
41.4 registered nurse, or a physician assistant. If one of these individuals is not present in the  
41.5 facility, the program director or a licensed physician, registered nurse, or physician assistant  
41.6 must be contacted and authorization must be obtained within 30 minutes of initiating a  
41.7 physical hold, according to written policies;

41.8 (iii) the patient's health concerns must be considered in deciding whether to use physical  
41.9 holds and which holds are appropriate for the patient; and

41.10 (iv) only approved holds may be utilized. Prone and contraindicated holds are not allowed  
41.11 according to section 245A.211 and must not be authorized.

41.12 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

41.13 Sec. 37. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 245F.14, is amended by adding a subdivision  
41.14 to read:

41.15 **Subd. 8. Notification to commissioner of changes in key staff positions.** A license  
41.16 holder must notify the commissioner within five business days of a change or vacancy in a  
41.17 key staff position. The key positions are a program director as required by subdivision 1, a  
41.18 registered nurse as required by subdivision 4, and a medical director as required by  
41.19 subdivision 5. The license holder must notify the commissioner of the staffing change or  
41.20 vacancy on a form approved by the commissioner and include the name of the staff person  
41.21 now assigned to the key staff position and the staff person's qualifications for the position.

41.22 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025.

41.23 Sec. 38. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 245G.07, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

41.24 **Subd. 4. Location of service provision.** ~~The license holder may provide services at any~~  
41.25 ~~of the license holder's licensed locations or at another suitable location including a school,~~  
41.26 ~~government building, medical or behavioral health facility, or social service organization,~~  
41.27 ~~upon notification and approval of the commissioner. If services are provided off site from~~  
41.28 ~~the licensed site, the reason for the provision of services remotely must be documented.~~  
41.29 ~~The license holder may provide additional services under subdivision 2, clauses (2) to (5),~~  
41.30 ~~off-site if the license holder includes a policy and procedure detailing the off-site location~~  
41.31 ~~as a part of the treatment service description and the program abuse prevention plan.~~

42.1 (a) The license holder must provide all treatment services a client receives at one of the  
42.2 license holder's substance use disorder treatment licensed locations or at a location allowed  
42.3 under paragraphs (b) to (f). If the services are provided at the locations in paragraphs (b) to  
42.4 (d), the license holder must document in the client record the location services were provided.

42.5 (b) The license holder may provide nonresidential individual treatment services at a  
42.6 client's home or place of residence.

42.7 (c) The license holder may provide treatment services via telehealth if the license holder  
42.8 maintains a physical location in Minnesota where the license holder must offer all treatment  
42.9 services in subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clauses (1) to (4), physically in person to each  
42.10 client.

42.11 (d) The license holder may provide the additional treatment services under subdivision  
42.12 2, clauses (2) to (5), away from the licensed location at a suitable location appropriate to  
42.13 the treatment service.

42.14 (e) Upon written approval from the commissioner for each satellite location, the license  
42.15 holder may provide nonresidential treatment services at satellite locations that are in a  
42.16 school, jail, or nursing home. A satellite location may only provide services to students of  
42.17 the school, inmates of the jail, or residents of the nursing home. Schools, jails, and nursing  
42.18 homes are exempt from the licensing requirements in section 245A.04, subdivision 2a, to  
42.19 document compliance with building codes, fire and safety codes, health rules, and zoning  
42.20 ordinances.

42.21 (f) The commissioner may approve other suitable locations as satellite locations for  
42.22 nonresidential treatment services. The commissioner may require satellite locations under  
42.23 this paragraph to meet all applicable licensing requirements. The license holder may not  
42.24 have more than two satellite locations per license under this paragraph.

42.25 (g) The license holder must provide the commissioner access to all files, documentation,  
42.26 staff persons, and any other information the commissioner requires at the main licensed  
42.27 location for all clients served at any location under paragraphs (b) to (f).

42.28 (h) Notwithstanding sections 245A.65, subdivision 2, and 626.557, subdivision 14, a  
42.29 program abuse prevention plan is not required for satellite or other locations under paragraphs  
42.30 (b) to (e). An individual abuse prevention plan is still required for any client that is a  
42.31 vulnerable adult as defined in section 626.5572, subdivision 21.

42.32 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025.

43.1 Sec. 39. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 245G.08, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

43.2 Subd. 5. **Administration of medication and assistance with self-medication.** (a) A  
43.3 license holder must meet the requirements in this subdivision if a service provided includes  
43.4 the administration of medication.

43.5 (b) A staff member, other than a licensed practitioner or nurse, who is delegated by a  
43.6 licensed practitioner or a registered nurse the task of administration of medication or assisting  
43.7 with self-medication, must:

43.8 (1) successfully complete a medication administration training program for unlicensed  
43.9 personnel through an accredited Minnesota postsecondary educational institution. A staff  
43.10 member's completion of the course must be documented in writing and placed in the staff  
43.11 member's personnel file;

43.12 (2) be trained according to a formalized training program that is taught by a registered  
43.13 nurse and offered by the license holder. ~~The training must include the process for~~  
43.14 ~~administration of naloxone, if naloxone is kept on site.~~ A staff member's completion of the  
43.15 training must be documented in writing and placed in the staff member's personnel records;  
43.16 or

43.17 (3) demonstrate to a registered nurse competency to perform the delegated activity. A  
43.18 registered nurse must be employed or contracted to develop the policies and procedures for  
43.19 administration of medication or assisting with self-administration of medication, or both.

43.20 (c) A registered nurse must provide supervision as defined in section 148.171, subdivision  
43.21 23. The registered nurse's supervision must include, at a minimum, monthly on-site  
43.22 supervision or more often if warranted by a client's health needs. The policies and procedures  
43.23 must include:

43.24 (1) a provision that a delegation of administration of medication is limited to a method  
43.25 a staff member has been trained to administer and limited to:

43.26 (i) a medication that is administered orally, topically, or as a suppository, an eye drop,  
43.27 an ear drop, an inhalant, or an intranasal; and

43.28 (ii) an intramuscular injection of ~~naloxone~~ an opiate antagonist as defined in section  
43.29 604A.04, subdivision 1, or epinephrine;

43.30 (2) a provision that each client's file must include documentation indicating whether  
43.31 staff must conduct the administration of medication or the client must self-administer  
43.32 medication, or both;

44.1 (3) a provision that a client may carry emergency medication such as nitroglycerin as  
 44.2 instructed by the client's physician, advanced practice registered nurse, or physician assistant;

44.3 (4) a provision for the client to self-administer medication when a client is scheduled to  
 44.4 be away from the facility;

44.5 (5) a provision that if a client self-administers medication when the client is present in  
 44.6 the facility, the client must self-administer medication under the observation of a trained  
 44.7 staff member;

44.8 (6) a provision that when a license holder serves a client who is a parent with a child,  
 44.9 the parent may only administer medication to the child under a staff member's supervision;

44.10 (7) requirements for recording the client's use of medication, including staff signatures  
 44.11 with date and time;

44.12 (8) guidelines for when to inform a nurse of problems with self-administration of  
 44.13 medication, including a client's failure to administer, refusal of a medication, adverse  
 44.14 reaction, or error; and

44.15 (9) procedures for acceptance, documentation, and implementation of a prescription,  
 44.16 whether written, verbal, telephonic, or electronic.

44.17 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

44.18 Sec. 40. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 245G.08, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

44.19 Subd. 6. **Control of drugs.** A license holder must have and implement written policies  
 44.20 and procedures developed by a registered nurse that contain:

44.21 (1) a requirement that each drug must be stored in a locked compartment. A Schedule  
 44.22 II drug, as defined by section 152.02, subdivision 3, must be stored in a separately locked  
 44.23 compartment, permanently affixed to the physical plant or medication cart;

44.24 (2) a system which accounts for all scheduled drugs each shift;

44.25 (3) a procedure for recording the client's use of medication, including the signature of  
 44.26 the staff member who completed the administration of the medication with the time and  
 44.27 date;

44.28 (4) a procedure to destroy a discontinued, outdated, or deteriorated medication;

44.29 (5) a statement that only authorized personnel are permitted access to the keys to a locked  
 44.30 compartment;

45.1 (6) a statement that no legend drug supply for one client shall be given to another client;  
45.2 and

45.3 (7) a procedure for monitoring the available supply of ~~naloxone~~ an opiate antagonist as  
45.4 defined in section 604A.04, subdivision 1, on site; and replenishing the ~~naloxone~~ supply  
45.5 when needed, ~~and destroying naloxone according to clause (4).~~

45.6 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

45.7 Sec. 41. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 245G.10, is amended by adding a subdivision  
45.8 to read:

45.9 **Subd. 6. Notification to commissioner of changes in key staff positions.** A license  
45.10 holder must notify the commissioner within five business days of a change or vacancy in a  
45.11 key staff position. The key positions are a treatment director as required by subdivision 1,  
45.12 an alcohol and drug counselor supervisor as required by subdivision 2, and a registered  
45.13 nurse as required by section 245G.08, subdivision 5, paragraph (c). The license holder must  
45.14 notify the commissioner of the staffing change or vacancy on a form approved by the  
45.15 commissioner and include the name of the staff person now assigned to the key staff position  
45.16 and the staff person's qualifications for the position.

45.17 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025.

45.18 Sec. 42. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 245G.22, subdivision 2, is amended  
45.19 to read:

45.20 Subd. 2. **Definitions.** (a) For purposes of this section, the terms defined in this subdivision  
45.21 have the meanings given them.

45.22 (b) "Diversion" means the use of a medication for the treatment of opioid addiction being  
45.23 diverted from intended use of the medication.

45.24 (c) "Guest dose" means administration of a medication used for the treatment of opioid  
45.25 addiction to a person who is not a client of the program that is administering or dispensing  
45.26 the medication.

45.27 (d) "Medical director" means a practitioner licensed to practice medicine in the  
45.28 jurisdiction that the opioid treatment program is located who assumes responsibility for  
45.29 administering all medical services performed by the program, either by performing the  
45.30 services directly or by delegating specific responsibility to a practitioner of the opioid  
45.31 treatment program.

46.1 (e) "Medication used for the treatment of opioid use disorder" means a medication  
46.2 approved by the Food and Drug Administration for the treatment of opioid use disorder.

46.3 (f) "Minnesota health care programs" has the meaning given in section 256B.0636.

46.4 (g) "Opioid treatment program" has the meaning given in Code of Federal Regulations,  
46.5 title 42, section 8.12, and includes programs licensed under this chapter.

46.6 (h) "Practitioner" means a staff member holding a current, unrestricted license to practice  
46.7 medicine issued by the Board of Medical Practice or nursing issued by the Board of Nursing  
46.8 and is currently registered with the Drug Enforcement Administration to order or dispense  
46.9 controlled substances in Schedules II to V under the Controlled Substances Act, United  
46.10 States Code, title 21, part B, section 821. ~~Practitioner includes an advanced practice registered  
46.11 nurse and physician assistant if the staff member receives a variance by the state opioid  
46.12 treatment authority under section 254A.03 and the federal Substance Abuse and Mental  
46.13 Health Services Administration.~~

46.14 (i) "Unsupervised use" or "take-home" means the use of a medication for the treatment  
46.15 of opioid use disorder dispensed for use by a client outside of the program setting.

46.16 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

46.17 Sec. 43. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 245G.22, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

46.18 Subd. 6. **Criteria for unsupervised use.** (a) To limit the potential for diversion of  
46.19 medication used for the treatment of opioid use disorder to the illicit market, medication  
46.20 dispensed to a client for unsupervised use shall be subject to the requirements of this  
46.21 subdivision. Any client in an opioid treatment program may receive ~~a single unsupervised  
46.22 use dose for a day that the clinic is closed for business, including Sundays and state and  
46.23 federal holidays~~ their individualized take-home doses as ordered for days that the clinic is  
46.24 closed for business, on one weekend day (e.g., Sunday) and state and federal holidays, no  
46.25 matter their length of time in treatment, as allowed under Code of Federal Regulations, title  
46.26 42, part 8.12 (i)(1).

46.27 (b) For take-home doses beyond those allowed by paragraph (a), a practitioner with  
46.28 authority to prescribe must review and document the criteria in this paragraph and paragraph  
46.29 (e) the Code of Federal Regulations, title 42, part 8.12 (i)(2), when determining whether  
46.30 dispensing medication for a client's unsupervised use is safe and it is appropriate to  
46.31 implement, increase, or extend the amount of time between visits to the program. The criteria  
46.32 are:

47.1 ~~(1) absence of recent abuse of drugs including but not limited to opioids, non-narcotics,~~  
 47.2 ~~and alcohol;~~

47.3 ~~(2) regularity of program attendance;~~

47.4 ~~(3) absence of serious behavioral problems at the program;~~

47.5 ~~(4) absence of known recent criminal activity such as drug dealing;~~

47.6 ~~(5) stability of the client's home environment and social relationships;~~

47.7 ~~(6) length of time in comprehensive maintenance treatment;~~

47.8 ~~(7) reasonable assurance that unsupervised use medication will be safely stored within~~  
 47.9 ~~the client's home; and~~

47.10 ~~(8) whether the rehabilitative benefit the client derived from decreasing the frequency~~  
 47.11 ~~of program attendance outweighs the potential risks of diversion or unsupervised use.~~

47.12 (c) The determination, including the basis of the determination must be documented by  
 47.13 a practitioner in the client's medical record.

47.14 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

47.15 Sec. 44. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 245G.22, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

47.16 **Subd. 7. Restrictions for unsupervised use of methadone hydrochloride.** (a) If a  
 47.17 ~~medical director or prescribing practitioner assesses and, determines, and documents that~~  
 47.18 ~~a client meets the criteria in subdivision 6 and may be dispensed a medication used for the~~  
 47.19 ~~treatment of opioid addiction, the restrictions in this subdivision must be followed when~~  
 47.20 ~~the medication to be dispensed is methadone hydrochloride. The results of the assessment~~  
 47.21 ~~must be contained in the client file. The number of unsupervised use medication doses per~~  
 47.22 ~~week in paragraphs (b) to (d) is in addition to the number of unsupervised use medication~~  
 47.23 ~~doses a client may receive for days the clinic is closed for business as allowed by subdivision~~  
 47.24 ~~6, paragraph (a) and that a patient is safely able to manage unsupervised doses of methadone,~~  
 47.25 the number of take-home doses the client receives must be limited by the number allowed  
 47.26 by the Code of Federal Regulations, title 42, part 8.12 (i)(3).

47.27 ~~(b) During the first 90 days of treatment, the unsupervised use medication supply must~~  
 47.28 ~~be limited to a maximum of a single dose each week and the client shall ingest all other~~  
 47.29 ~~doses under direct supervision.~~

47.30 ~~(c) In the second 90 days of treatment, the unsupervised use medication supply must be~~  
 47.31 ~~limited to two doses per week.~~

48.1 ~~(d) In the third 90 days of treatment, the unsupervised use medication supply must not~~  
48.2 ~~exceed three doses per week.~~

48.3 ~~(e) In the remaining months of the first year, a client may be given a maximum six-day~~  
48.4 ~~unsupervised use medication supply.~~

48.5 ~~(f) After one year of continuous treatment, a client may be given a maximum two-week~~  
48.6 ~~unsupervised use medication supply.~~

48.7 ~~(g) After two years of continuous treatment, a client may be given a maximum one-month~~  
48.8 ~~unsupervised use medication supply, but must make monthly visits to the program.~~

48.9 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

48.10 Sec. 45. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 245G.22, subdivision 17, is amended  
48.11 to read:

48.12 Subd. 17. **Policies and procedures.** (a) A license holder must develop and maintain the  
48.13 policies and procedures required in this subdivision.

48.14 (b) For a program that is not open every day of the year, the license holder must maintain  
48.15 a policy and procedure that covers requirements under section 245G.22, subdivisions 6 and  
48.16 7. Unsupervised use of medication used for the treatment of opioid use disorder for days  
48.17 that the program is closed for business, ~~including but not limited to Sundays~~ on one weekend  
48.18 day and state and federal holidays, must meet the requirements under section 245G.22,  
48.19 subdivisions 6 and 7.

48.20 (c) The license holder must maintain a policy and procedure that includes specific  
48.21 measures to reduce the possibility of diversion. The policy and procedure must:

48.22 (1) specifically identify and define the responsibilities of the medical and administrative  
48.23 staff for performing diversion control measures; and

48.24 (2) include a process for contacting no less than five percent of clients who have  
48.25 unsupervised use of medication, excluding clients approved solely under subdivision 6,  
48.26 paragraph (a), to require clients to physically return to the program each month. The system  
48.27 must require clients to return to the program within a stipulated time frame and turn in all  
48.28 unused medication containers related to opioid use disorder treatment. The license holder  
48.29 must document all related contacts on a central log and the outcome of the contact for each  
48.30 client in the client's record. The medical director must be informed of each outcome that  
48.31 results in a situation in which a possible diversion issue was identified.

49.1 (d) Medication used for the treatment of opioid use disorder must be ordered,  
 49.2 administered, and dispensed according to applicable state and federal regulations and the  
 49.3 standards set by applicable accreditation entities. If a medication order requires assessment  
 49.4 by the person administering or dispensing the medication to determine the amount to be  
 49.5 administered or dispensed, the assessment must be completed by an individual whose  
 49.6 professional scope of practice permits an assessment. For the purposes of enforcement of  
 49.7 this paragraph, the commissioner has the authority to monitor the person administering or  
 49.8 dispensing the medication for compliance with state and federal regulations and the relevant  
 49.9 standards of the license holder's accreditation agency and may issue licensing actions  
 49.10 according to sections 245A.05, 245A.06, and 245A.07, based on the commissioner's  
 49.11 determination of noncompliance.

49.12 (e) A counselor in an opioid treatment program must not supervise more than 50 clients.

49.13 (f) Notwithstanding paragraph (e), from July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024, a counselor in  
 49.14 an opioid treatment program may supervise up to 60 clients. The license holder may continue  
 49.15 to serve a client who was receiving services at the program on June 30, 2024, at a counselor  
 49.16 to client ratio of up to one to 60 and is not required to discharge any clients in order to return  
 49.17 to the counselor to client ratio of one to 50. The license holder may not, however, serve a  
 49.18 new client after June 30, 2024, unless the counselor who would supervise the new client is  
 49.19 supervising fewer than 50 existing clients.

49.20 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

49.21 Sec. 46. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 256.046, subdivision 3, is amended  
 49.22 to read:

49.23 Subd. 3. **Administrative disqualification of child care providers caring for children**  
 49.24 **receiving child care assistance.** (a) The department shall pursue an administrative  
 49.25 disqualification, if the child care provider is accused of committing an intentional program  
 49.26 violation, in lieu of a criminal action when it has not been pursued. Intentional program  
 49.27 violations include intentionally making false or misleading statements; intentionally  
 49.28 misrepresenting, concealing, or withholding facts; and repeatedly and intentionally violating  
 49.29 program regulations under chapters 119B and 245E. Intent may be proven by demonstrating  
 49.30 a pattern of conduct that violates program rules under chapters 119B and 245E.

49.31 (b) To initiate an administrative disqualification, the commissioner must ~~mail~~ send  
 49.32 written notice ~~by certified mail~~ using a signature-verified confirmed delivery method to the  
 49.33 provider against whom the action is being taken. Unless otherwise specified under chapter  
 49.34 119B or 245E or Minnesota Rules, chapter 3400, the commissioner must ~~mail~~ send the

50.1 written notice at least 15 calendar days before the adverse action's effective date. The notice  
50.2 shall state (1) the factual basis for the agency's determination, (2) the action the agency  
50.3 intends to take, (3) the dollar amount of the monetary recovery or recoupment, if known,  
50.4 and (4) the provider's right to appeal the agency's proposed action.

50.5 (c) The provider may appeal an administrative disqualification by submitting a written  
50.6 request to the Department of Human Services, Appeals Division. A provider's request must  
50.7 be received by the Appeals Division no later than 30 days after the date the commissioner  
50.8 mails the notice.

50.9 (d) The provider's appeal request must contain the following:

50.10 (1) each disputed item, the reason for the dispute, and, if applicable, an estimate of the  
50.11 dollar amount involved for each disputed item;

50.12 (2) the computation the provider believes to be correct, if applicable;

50.13 (3) the statute or rule relied on for each disputed item; and

50.14 (4) the name, address, and telephone number of the person at the provider's place of  
50.15 business with whom contact may be made regarding the appeal.

50.16 (e) On appeal, the issuing agency bears the burden of proof to demonstrate by a  
50.17 preponderance of the evidence that the provider committed an intentional program violation.

50.18 (f) The hearing is subject to the requirements of sections 256.045 and 256.0451. The  
50.19 human services judge may combine a fair hearing and administrative disqualification hearing  
50.20 into a single hearing if the factual issues arise out of the same or related circumstances and  
50.21 the provider receives prior notice that the hearings will be combined.

50.22 (g) A provider found to have committed an intentional program violation and is  
50.23 administratively disqualified shall be disqualified, for a period of three years for the first  
50.24 offense and permanently for any subsequent offense, from receiving any payments from  
50.25 any child care program under chapter 119B.

50.26 (h) Unless a timely and proper appeal made under this section is received by the  
50.27 department, the administrative determination of the department is final and binding.

50.28 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective August 1, 2024.

51.1 Sec. 47. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 256B.064, subdivision 4, is amended  
51.2 to read:

51.3 Subd. 4. **Notice.** (a) The department shall serve the notice required under subdivision 2  
51.4 ~~by certified mail at~~ using a signature-verified confirmed delivery method to the address  
51.5 submitted to the department by the individual or entity. Service is complete upon mailing.

51.6 (b) The department shall give notice in writing to a recipient placed in the Minnesota  
51.7 restricted recipient program under section 256B.0646 and Minnesota Rules, part 9505.2200.  
51.8 The department shall send the notice by first class mail to the recipient's current address on  
51.9 file with the department. A recipient placed in the Minnesota restricted recipient program  
51.10 may contest the placement by submitting a written request for a hearing to the department  
51.11 within 90 days of the notice being mailed.

51.12 Sec. 48. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 260E.33, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

51.13 Subd. 2. **Request for reconsideration.** (a) Except as provided under subdivision 5, an  
51.14 individual or facility that the commissioner of human services, a local welfare agency, or  
51.15 the commissioner of education determines has maltreated a child, an interested person acting  
51.16 on behalf of the child, regardless of the determination, who contests the investigating agency's  
51.17 final determination regarding maltreatment may request the investigating agency to reconsider  
51.18 its final determination regarding maltreatment. The request for reconsideration must be  
51.19 submitted in writing or submitted in the provider licensing and reporting hub to the  
51.20 investigating agency within 15 calendar days after receipt of notice of the final determination  
51.21 regarding maltreatment or, if the request is made by an interested person who is not entitled  
51.22 to notice, within 15 days after receipt of the notice by the parent or guardian of the child.  
51.23 If mailed, the request for reconsideration must be postmarked and sent to the investigating  
51.24 agency within 15 calendar days of the individual's or facility's receipt of the final  
51.25 determination. If the request for reconsideration is made by personal service, it must be  
51.26 received by the investigating agency within 15 calendar days after the individual's or facility's  
51.27 receipt of the final determination. Upon implementation of the provider licensing and  
51.28 reporting hub, the individual or facility must use the hub to request reconsideration. The  
51.29 reconsideration must be received by the commissioner within 15 calendar days of the  
51.30 individual's receipt of the notice of disqualification.

51.31 (b) An individual who was determined to have maltreated a child under this chapter and  
51.32 who was disqualified on the basis of serious or recurring maltreatment under sections  
51.33 245C.14 and 245C.15 may request reconsideration of the maltreatment determination and  
51.34 the disqualification. The request for reconsideration of the maltreatment determination and

52.1 the disqualification must be submitted within 30 calendar days of the individual's receipt  
52.2 of the notice of disqualification under sections 245C.16 and 245C.17. If mailed, the request  
52.3 for reconsideration of the maltreatment determination and the disqualification must be  
52.4 postmarked and sent to the investigating agency within 30 calendar days of the individual's  
52.5 receipt of the maltreatment determination and notice of disqualification. If the request for  
52.6 reconsideration is made by personal service, it must be received by the investigating agency  
52.7 within 30 calendar days after the individual's receipt of the notice of disqualification.

52.8 Sec. 49. **REPEALER.**

52.9 (a) Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 245C.125, is repealed.

52.10 (b) Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 245C.08, subdivision 2, is repealed.

52.11 (c) Minnesota Rules, part 9502.0425, subparts 5 and 10, are repealed.

**245C.08 BACKGROUND STUDY; COMMISSIONER REVIEWS.**

Subd. 2. **Background studies conducted by a county agency for family child care.** (a) Before the implementation of NETStudy 2.0, for a background study conducted by a county agency for family child care services, the commissioner shall review:

(1) information from the county agency's record of substantiated maltreatment of adults and the maltreatment of minors;

(2) information from juvenile courts as required in subdivision 4 for:

(i) individuals listed in section 245C.03, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), who are ages 13 through 23 living in the household where the licensed services will be provided; and

(ii) any other individual listed under section 245C.03, subdivision 1, when there is reasonable cause; and

(3) information from the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension.

(b) If the individual has resided in the county for less than five years, the study shall include the records specified under paragraph (a) for the previous county or counties of residence for the past five years.

(c) Notwithstanding expungement by a court, the county agency may consider information obtained under paragraph (a), clause (3), unless:

(1) the commissioner received notice of the petition for expungement and the court order for expungement is directed specifically to the commissioner; or

(2) the commissioner received notice of the expungement order issued pursuant to section 609A.017, 609A.025, or 609A.035, and the order for expungement is directed specifically to the commissioner.

**245C.125 BACKGROUND STUDY; HEAD START PROGRAMS.**

(a) Head Start programs that receive funds under section 119A.52 may contract with the commissioner to:

(1) conduct background studies on individuals affiliated with a Head Start program; and

(2) obtain background study data on individuals affiliated with a Head Start program.

(b) The commissioner must include a national criminal history record check in a background study conducted under paragraph (a).

(c) A Head Start program site that does not contract with the commissioner, is not licensed, and is not registered to receive payments under chapter 119B is exempt from the relevant requirements in this chapter. Nothing in this section supersedes requirements for background studies in this chapter or chapter 119B or 245H that relate to licensed child care programs or programs registered to receive payments under chapter 119B. For a background study conducted under this section to be transferable to other child care entities, the study must include all components of studies for a certified license-exempt child care center under this chapter.

**9502.0425 PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT.**

Subp. 5. **Occupancy separations.** Day care residences with an attached garage must have a self-closing, tight fitting solid wood bonded core door at least 1-3/8 inch thick, or door with a fire protection rating of 20 minutes or greater and a separation wall consisting of 5/8 inch thick gypsum wallboard or its equivalent on the garage side between the residence and garage.

Subp. 10. **Stairways.** All stairways must meet the following conditions.

A. Stairways of three or more steps must have handrails.

B. Any open area between the handrail and stair tread must be enclosed with a protective guardrail as specified in the State Building Code. The back of the stair risers must be enclosed.

C. Gates or barriers must be used when children between the ages of 6 and 18 months are in care.

D. Stairways must be well-lighted, in good repair, and free of clutter and obstructions.