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ARTICLE 10

EARLY CARE AND LEARNING POLICY

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 142A.42, is amended to read:

142A.42 DIAPER DISTRIBUTION GRANT PROGRAM.

Subdivision 1. **Establishment; purpose.** The commissioner of children, youth, and families shall establish a diaper distribution program to award ~~competitive grants to eligible applicants~~ a sole-source grant to the Diaper Bank of Minnesota to provide diapers to underresourced families statewide.

Subd. 2. **Eligibility.** To be eligible for a grant under this section, ~~an applicant~~ the Diaper Bank of Minnesota must demonstrate its capacity to distribute diapers statewide by having:

(1) a network of well-established partners for diaper distribution;

(2) the infrastructure needed to efficiently manage diaper procurement and distribution statewide;

(3) relationships with national organizations that support and enhance the work of addressing diaper need;

(4) the ability to engage in building community awareness of diaper need and advocate for diaper need at local, state, and federal levels;

(5) a commitment to and demonstration of working with organizations across ideological and political spectrums;

(6) the ability to address diaper need for children from birth through early childhood; and

(7) a commitment to working within an equity framework by ensuring access to organizations that provide culturally specific services or are located in communities with high concentrations of poverty.

Subd. 3. **Application.** ~~Applicants~~ The Diaper Bank of Minnesota must apply to the commissioner in a form and manner prescribed by the commissioner. Applications must be filed at the times and for the periods determined by the commissioner.

Subd. 4. **Eligible uses of grant money.** ~~An eligible applicant that receives grant money under this section shall~~ The Diaper Bank of Minnesota must use the money awarded under this section to purchase diapers and wipes and may use up to ten percent of the money for administrative costs.

Subd. 5. **Enforcement.** (a) ~~An eligible applicant that receives grant money under this section~~ The Diaper Bank of Minnesota must:

(1) retain records documenting expenditure of the grant money;

167.16 (2) report to the commissioner on the use of the grant money; and
167.17 (3) comply with any additional requirements imposed by the commissioner.
167.18 (b) The commissioner may require that a report submitted under this subdivision include
167.19 an independent audit.
167.20 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 142D.21, subdivision 6, is amended to read:
167.21 Subd. 6. **Payments.** (a) The commissioner shall provide payments under this section to
167.22 all eligible programs on a noncompetitive basis. The payment amounts shall be based on
167.23 the number of full-time equivalent staff who regularly care for children in the program,
167.24 including any employees, sole proprietors, or independent contractors.
167.25 (b) For purposes of this section, "one full-time equivalent" is defined as an individual
167.26 caring for children 32 hours per week. An individual can count as more or less than one
167.27 full-time equivalent staff, but as no more than two full-time equivalent staff.
167.28 (c) The commissioner must establish an amount to award per full-time equivalent
167.29 individual who regularly cares for children in the program.
167.30 ~~(d) Payments must be increased by ten percent for programs receiving child care~~
167.31 ~~assistance payments under section 142E.08 or 142E.17 or early learning scholarships under~~
168.1 ~~section 142D.25, or for programs located in a child care access equity area. The commissioner~~
168.2 ~~must develop a method for establishing child care access equity areas. For purposes of this~~
168.3 ~~section, "child care access equity area" means an area with low access to child care, high~~
168.4 ~~poverty rates, high unemployment rates, low homeownership rates, and low median~~
168.5 ~~household incomes.~~
168.6 ~~(e)~~ (d) The commissioner shall establish the form, frequency, and manner for making
168.7 payments under this section.
168.8 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 142D.21, is amended by adding a subdivision to
168.9 read:
168.10 Subd. 11. **Data.** (a) For the purposes of this subdivision, the following terms have the
168.11 meanings given in this paragraph.
168.12 (1) "Great start compensation program support payment data" means data for a specified
168.13 time period showing that a great start compensation payment under this section was made
168.14 and the amount of great start compensation payments made to a child care and early learning
168.15 program.
168.16 (2) "Data on children and families" means data about the enrollment and attendance as
168.17 described in subdivision 3, paragraph (a), clause (2).
168.18 (b) Great start compensation program support payment data are public except that:

168.19 (1) any data on children and families collected by the great start compensation support
168.20 payment program that may identify a specific family or child or, as determined by the
168.21 commissioner, are private data on individuals as defined in section 13.02, subdivision 12;

168.22 (2) great start compensation payment data about operating expenses and personnel
168.23 expenses are private or nonpublic data; and

168.24 (3) great start compensation payment data about legal nonlicensed child care providers
168.25 as described in subdivision 8 are private or nonpublic data.