

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'An Act To Improve Business Certainty for Providers of Quality Child Care'

Amend the bill in section 1 in subsection 3 by striking out all of paragraphs C, D and E (page 1, lines 21 to 23 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

'C. A quality differential rate of at least 2% for step 2 child care services;

D. A quality differential rate of at least 5% for step 3 child care services; and

E. A quality differential rate of at least 10% for step 4 child care services.'

Amend the bill by inserting after section 1 the following:

'Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF (FORMERLY DHS)

Child Care Services 0563

Initiative: Allocates funds for changes in quality differential rates for child care services.

FEDERAL BLOCK GRANT FUND	2013-14	2014-15
All Other	\$0	\$73,590
FEDERAL BLOCK GRANT FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$73,590

SUMMARY

This amendment is the majority report of the committee. The bill provides exact mandatory amounts for the quality child care differentials at steps 2, 3 and 4 of the 4-step child care quality rating system required by the bill. This amendment instead requires the Department of Health and Human Services to pay quality child care differential rates of at least 2% for step 2 child care services, at least 5% for step 3 child care services and at least 10% for step 4 child care services. These minimum rates are lower than those proposed in the bill. The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED
(See attached)