

1 **AN ACT** *to create* 48.47 (9) of the statutes; **relating to:** a quality rating system for
2 child care.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PREFATORY NOTE: This bill draft was prepared for the Joint Legislative Council's Special Committee on Performance-Based Disease Management for Large Populations.

In 2004, Governor Doyle's Quality Counts for Kids Task Force was established to develop a program that would, among other things, rate the quality of child care providers and guide parents in choosing a child care provider for their children. A quality rating system would evaluate all licensed child care programs based on a set of standards, with programs given a rating of a certain number of stars to be made available to parents, providing them the information they need to make more informed choices. A quality rating system was included in the Governor's proposed 2005–07 biennial budget but was not included in the final budget.

Current law specifies that child care providers must meet minimum standards and requirements to be licensed, but the providers are not rated as to the quality of the services they provide in relation to each other. Under current licensing requirements, child care centers must provide children with experiences which promote large and small muscle development. Children must go outside daily unless the weather prohibits doing so. Current licensing requirements do not specifically require child care providers to provide nutrition education to children.

The draft requires the Department of Children and Families (DCF) to create a quality rating system for licensed child care and to include in that system indicators regarding the developmentally appropriate nutrition education and developmentally appropriate physical activity available at the licensed child care center. The department must make the quality rating system information available to parents, guardians, and legal custodians of children.

3 **SECTION 1.** 48.47 (9) of the statutes is created to read:

1 48.47 (9) QUALITY RATING SYSTEM. Establish a quality rating system for day care centers
2 licensed under s. 48.65, Stats. The quality rating system shall include indicators regarding the
3 developmentally appropriate nutrition education and developmentally appropriate physical
4 activity provided at licensed day care centers. The department shall make the rating
5 information available to parents, guardians, and legal custodians of children who are
6 recipients, or prospective recipients, of care and supervision from a day care provider that is
7 rated under the system.

NOTE: Requires DCF to create a quality rating system for licensed day care centers. The quality rating system must include indicators regarding the developmentally appropriate nutrition education and developmentally appropriate physical activity available at licensed day care centers. The department must make the quality rating system information available to parents, guardians, and legal custodians of children.