

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 draft was prepared for the Joint Legislative Council’s Special Committee on Performance–Based Disease Management for Large Populations.

The Department of Children and Families (DCF) licenses child care centers. Current law requires anyone caring for four or more children, under age seven, unrelated to the provider, to be licensed. The two types of licensed child care are: family child care (up to 8 children in care at any given time) and group child care (nine or more children at any given time). Licensed child cares are not rated as to the quality of services they provide in relation to each other. Current licensing requirements specify that meals and snacks provided at a licensed child care center must comply with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Child and Adult Care Food Program minimum meal requirements. Also under current licensing requirements, licensed child care centers must provide children with experiences which promote large and small muscle development and children must go outside daily unless the weather prohibits doing so. Current licensing requirements do not specifically direct licensed child care centers to provide nutrition education to children.

The draft requires DCF to establish a child care quality rating system that rates the quality of the child care provided by licensed child care providers. The quality rating system must include, but not be limited to, indicators regarding the quality of the developmentally appropriate nutrition education, the developmentally appropriate physical activity, and the nutritional value of the food and beverages provided at the child care center, and any other nutritional policies implemented by a licensed child care provider. DCF must work with the department of health services in establishing the quality indicators used to evaluate the quality of care provided at a licensed day care center. DCF is required to make the rating information provided under the quality rating system available to the parents, guardians, and legal custodians of children who are recipients, or prospective recipients, of care and supervision from a child care provider that is rated under the quality rating system. Finally, DCF

is required to seek funding to create a program to provide financial assistance to licensed child care providers that wish to improve their rating under the quality rating system.

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

2 48.47 (9) QUALITY RATING SYSTEM. (a) Establish a child care quality rating system that
3 rates the quality of the child care provided by a child care provider licensed under s. 48.65.
4 The quality rating system shall include, but not be limited to, indicators regarding the relative
5 quality of all of the following:

6 1. Developmentally appropriate nutrition education provided to children by the
7 provider.

8 2. Developmentally appropriate physical activity that is included in the provider's
9 program.

10 3. The nutritional value of food and beverages served to children by the provider.

11 4. Any other nutritional policies implemented by the provider.

12 (b) Consult with the department of health services in establishing the quality indicators
13 used to evaluate the quality of care provided by child care providers.

14 (c) Make the rating information provided under the quality rating system available to
15 the parents, guardians, and legal custodians of children who are recipients, or prospective
16 recipients, of care and supervision from a child care provider that is rated under the quality
17 rating system.

18 (d) Seek funding to provide financial assistance to child care providers to improve their
19 rating under the quality rating system.

NOTE: Requires DCF to establish a child care quality rating system that rates the quality of the child care provided by licensed child care providers. The quality rating system must include, but not be limited to, indicators regarding the relative quality of the developmentally appropriate nutrition education, developmentally appropriate physical

activity, nutritional value of the food and beverages, and any other nutritional policies implemented by a licensed child care provider. DCF must work with the department of health services in establishing the quality indicators used to evaluate the quality of care provided by a child care provider. DCF is required to make the rating information provided under the quality rating system available to the parents, guardians, and legal custodians of children who are recipients, or prospective recipients, of care and supervision from a child care provider that is rated under the quality rating system. Finally, DCF is required to seek funding to create a program to provide financial assistance to child care providers to improve their rating under the quality rating system.

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(END)