



# HOUSE BILL 882: Early Childhood Recommendations/DHHS.

2019-2020 General Assembly

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<b>Committee:</b>		<b>Date:</b>	May 3, 2019
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Reps. Dobson, Black, Horn, Russell	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Jessica Boney
<b>Analysis of:</b>	Third Edition		Staff Attorney

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**OVERVIEW:** *House Bill 882 would amend the qualifications for child care center staff. It would require the Division of Child Development and Early Education (Division) to establish expected competencies, to develop a process to meet these competencies, to develop an incentive program, and to study a pilot program.*

## **BILL ANALYSIS:**

*Amend Qualifications for Staff.* Requires lead teachers in a child care facility to earn a N.C. Early Childhood Credential before hiring and obtain a N.C. Infant-Toddler Certificate or Preschool Certificate, or its equivalent, within 18 months after being hired. Requires an operator of a licensed family child care home to have a N.C. Early Childhood Credential before receiving a license and earn a N.C. Infant-Toddler or Preschool Certificate, or its equivalent, within 18 months of getting a license.

*Establish Expected Competencies.* Directs the Division to define the knowledge requirements for early childhood educators by establishing expected, graduated competencies for lead teachers.

*Collaborate to Meet Competencies.* Requires the collaboration between the Division and the N.C. Community College System Office to develop, or revise, a standardized process for early childhood educators to demonstrate ability to meet competencies.

*Develop Incentive Program.* Directs the Division to develop and implement a program by July 1, 2020, to incentivize higher teacher education and compensation levels. The program shall provide subsidy payment enhancements to child care programs who met certain requirements. The Division shall submit a progress report on the program to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services (JLOCHHS) by March 1, 2020.

*Conduct Study on Pilot Program and Submit Report.* Directs the Division to conduct a study for the development of a pilot program modeled after the North Carolina prekindergarten program for classrooms for children birth through 3 years and to submit a report on the study.

*Requires Early Childhood Workforce Report.* Directs the Division to report on the status of the early childhood workforce, including educational status and compensation of all lead teachers and teaching staff enrolled in licensed care programs. The report must be submitted to JLOCHHS by January 1, 2021, and every 3 years thereafter.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** Except as otherwise provided, this act is effective when it becomes law.

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Director



Legislative Analysis  
Division  
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