



# SENATE BILL 570: Hold Harmless Star Ratings/ERS Assess. Resume.

2021-2022 General Assembly

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<b>Committee:</b>	Senate Health Care. If favorable, re-refer to Rules and Operations of the Senate	<b>Date:</b>	April 16, 2021
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Sens. Krawiec, Burgin, Perry	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Jessica Boney
<b>Analysis of:</b>	First Edition		Staff Attorney

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**OVERVIEW:** *Senate Bill 570 would hold certain licensed child care facilities harmless when the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) resumes environmental rating scale (ERS) assessments and would allow for certain flexibilities in awarding quality rating improvement system (QRIS) 'education points' for star rating purposes.*

## BILL ANALYSIS:

**Section 1** would direct DHHS, the Division of Child Development and Early Education (Division), to not require a licensed child care facility to undergo an ERS assessment if the assessment would result in the facility losing a star rating because of the facilities loss in educators and inability to replace those educators with comparably educated individuals.

**Section 2** would require, when ERS assessments resume, the Division to do the following when awarding QRIS 'education points' to a licensed child care facility for star rating purposes:

- Lower the 75% threshold to 50% for the percentage of lead teachers in the program required to meet the "rated licensed education requirements" criteria to earn QRIS 'education points.'
- Award one QRIS 'education point' for every two staff members enrolled in an accredited early childhood education program and working towards a degree at the time of the ERS assessment.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** Section 1 of this act would be effective when it becomes law and expires six months after the date the Governor signs an executive order rescinding Executive Order No. 116, Declaration of a State of Emergency to Coordinate Response and Protective Actions to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19. Subdivision 2(1) of this act is effective when it becomes law and expires June 30, 2027.

The remainder of this act is effective when it becomes law.

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