



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

2021-2022 General Assembly

<b>Committee:</b>	House Health. If favorable, re-refer to Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	<b>Date:</b>	June 10, 2021
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Sens. Krawiec, Burgin, Perry	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Jessica Boney Staff Attorney
<b>Analysis of:</b>	Second Edition		

**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 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.'

**Section 2.5** would require the Division to submit a report to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services by March 30, 2023 with the following information from June 30, 2021 to January 31, 2023: number of new high school Early Childhood Career and Technical Pathways programs across the State; new community college and university courses that award college credit towards a degree in early childhood based on work experience; new community college and university courses that allow college credits for taking online health, safety, and nutrition training module; information about the Early Childhood and Infant-Toddler Certificate Programs; number of early childhood educators using T.E.A.C.H. Scholarships to pay for college tuition and the increase in the number of early childhood educators using T.E.A.C.H. scholarships to pay for college tuition; information about the WAGES\$ salary supplement program; and number and percentage increase of early childhood educators with associate degrees in early childhood education.

The report would also include the number and percentage increase of early childhood educators with associate degrees between June 30, 2016, and June 30, 2021.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** Section 1 of this act is 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. Section 2 of this act is effective when it becomes law and expires June 30, 2023. The remainder of this act is effective when it becomes law.

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