

SENATE COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE REPORT

Chair of Committee

April 23, 2024
Date

Committee on Appropriations.

After consideration on the merits, the Committee recommends the following:

SB24-078 be amended as follows, and as so amended, be referred to the Committee of the Whole with favorable recommendation:

1 Amend printed bill, page 5, after line 12 insert:

2 "(2) FOR THE 2024-25 STATE FISCAL YEAR, THE DEPARTMENT
3 SHALL ISSUE NO MORE THAN TEN LICENSES TO CHILD CARE CENTERS THAT
4 OPERATE AS OUTDOOR NATURE-BASED PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS .".

5 Page 5, line 22, strike "THE" and substitute "BEGINNING IN THE 2025-26
6 STATE FISCAL YEAR, THE".

7 Page 5, after line 26 insert:

8 "(c) FOR THE 2024-25 STATE FISCAL YEAR, OUTDOOR PROGRAMS
9 SHALL:

10 (I) EMPLOY STAFF WITH:

11 (A) A BACHELOR'S DEGREE OR HIGHER DEGREE IN EARLY
12 CHILDHOOD EDUCATION, EARLY CHILDHOOD SPECIAL EDUCATION,
13 ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION, OR A DEGREE IN A RELATED FIELD; OR

14 (B) AN EARLY CHILDHOOD PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIAL
15 DESIGNATED AS EARLY CHILDHOOD PROFESSIONAL II, EARLY CHILDHOOD
16 PROFESSIONAL III, EARLY CHILDHOOD PROFESSIONAL IV, EARLY
17 CHILDHOOD PROFESSIONAL V, OR EARLY CHILDHOOD PROFESSIONAL VI;
18 AND

19 (II) EMPLOY AT LEAST ONE STAFF MEMBER WITH A LEVEL THREE
20 TRAINING CERTIFICATION AS A FOREST SCHOOL PRACTITIONER; AND

21 (III) REQUIRE THAT ALL STAFF ARE CERTIFIED IN PEDIATRIC FIRST
22 AID AND CARDIOPULMONARY RESUSCITATION.".

23 Page 6, after line 4 insert:

1 "(4) FOR THE 2024-25 FISCAL YEAR, AND EACH FISCAL YEAR
2 THEREAFTER THROUGH THE 2026-27 FISCAL YEAR, THE GENERAL
3 ASSEMBLY SHALL APPROPRIATE THIRTY THOUSAND DOLLARS FROM THE
4 CHILD CARE LICENSING CASH FUND CREATED IN SECTION 26.5-5-311 (4) TO
5 THE DEPARTMENT TO IMPLEMENT THE OUTDOOR PROGRAM."

6 Page 6, after line 27 insert:

7 "**SECTION 5. Appropriation.** (1) For the 2024-25 state fiscal
8 year, \$179,569 is appropriated to the department of early childhood for
9 use by the licensing and administration division. This appropriation
10 consists of \$149,569 from the general fund and \$30,000 from the child
11 care licensing cash fund created in section 26.5-5-311 (4), C.R.S. To
12 implement this act, the division may use this appropriation as follows:

13 (a) \$145,451, which consists of \$121,151 general fund and
14 \$24,300 from the child care licensing cash fund, for personal services,
15 which amount is based on an assumption that the division will require an
16 additional 1.8 FTE; and

17 (b) \$34,118, which consists of \$28,418 from the general fund and
18 \$5,700 from the child care licensing cash fund, for operating expenses.

19 (2) For the 2024-25 state fiscal year, \$35,341 is appropriated to
20 the department of public health and environment for use by the division
21 of environmental health and sustainability. This appropriation is from
22 the general fund and is based on an assumption that the division will
23 require an additional 0.4 FTE. To implement this act, the division may
24 use this appropriation for environmental health programs."

25 Renumber succeeding section accordingly.

26 Page 1, line 104, strike "MATTERS." and substitute "MATTERS, AND, IN
27 CONNECTION THEREWITH, MAKING AN APPROPRIATION."

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