



Legislative Council Staff

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Fiscal Note

Drafting Number:	LLS 24-0146	Date:	February 6, 2024
Prime Sponsors:	Rep. Joseph; McLachlan Sen. Ginal; Rich	Bill Status:	House Education
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Bill Topic: **BILINGUAL CHILD CARE LICENSING RESOURCES**

Summary of Fiscal Impact:	<input type="checkbox"/> State Revenue	<input type="checkbox"/> State Transfer	<input type="checkbox"/> Local Government
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Expenditure	<input type="checkbox"/> TABOR Refund	<input type="checkbox"/> Statutory Public Entity

The bill requires that child care licensing resources be provided in multiple languages and establishes a new unit in the Department of Early Childhood to support these services. It increases state expenditures beginning in FY 2024-25.

Appropriation Summary: For FY 2024-25, the bill requires an appropriation of \$280,928 to the Department of Early Childhood.

Fiscal Note Status: The fiscal note reflects the introduced bill.

Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts Under HB 24-1009

		Budget Year FY 2024-25	Out Year FY 2025-26
Revenue		-	-
Expenditures	General Fund	\$280,928	\$238,798
	Centrally Appropriated	\$78,125	\$79,471
	Total Expenditures	\$359,053	\$318,269
	Total FTE	2.7 FTE	3.0 FTE
Transfers		-	-
Other Budget Impacts	General Fund Reserve	\$42,139	\$35,820

Summary of Legislation

The bill creates the Bilingual Licensing Unit within the Department of Early Childhood (CDEC) to provide resources in plain language and prevalent languages to help individuals comply with child care licensing compliance requirements. CDEC is also required to provide services in different languages to individuals opening or operating an early childhood program licensed by the CDEC. The CDEC must report on language barriers in obtaining child care licenses to committees of the General Assembly by March 30, 2026.

Beginning in FY 2024-25, the bill requires that the General Assembly annually appropriate \$235,000 from the General Fund for the Bilingual Licensing Unit. The bill also requires that \$45,000 be appropriated for updates to the CDEC's mobile licensing application in FY 2024-25 only.

State Expenditures

The bill increases state expenditures in the CDEC by about \$360,000 in FY 2024-25 and \$318,000 in FY 2025-26, paid by the General Fund. These costs are for additional staff and to make updates to existing IT systems to establish the new unit and foster bilingual access to child care licensing. Expenditures are shown in Table 2 and detailed below.

Table 2
Expenditures Under HB 24-1009

	FY 2024-25	FY 2025-26
Department of Early Childhood		
Personal Services	\$202,462	\$224,958
Operating Expenses	\$3,456	\$3,840
Capital Outlay Costs	\$20,010	-
Mobile Licensing Application Update	\$45,000	-
Translation and Other Expenses	\$10,000	\$10,000
Centrally Appropriated Costs ¹	\$78,125	\$79,471
Total Cost	\$359,053	\$318,269
Total FTE	2.8 FTE	3.0 FTE

¹ Centrally appropriated costs are not included in the bill's appropriation.

Staff. Beginning in FY 2024-24, the CDEC will require 3.0 FTE for the Bilingual Licensing Unit to provide education and resources for the child care licensing process in prevalent languages, and support bilingual individuals through the licensing process. This includes reviewing documents submitted by bilingual providers and performing inspections of their facilities. Staff costs are prorated for an August 1, 2024 start date.

Mobile licensing application update. In FY 2024-25 only, the CDEC requires \$45,000 to update the mobile licensing application in prevalent languages, including modifications that allow the ability to produce licensing inspections and investigation reports and provide essential information in prevalent languages. The estimated costs assume 600 hours of work at a rate of \$75 per hour.

Translation and other expenses. CDEC will have costs of around \$10,000 per year for translation, interpretation, and other language services.

Centrally appropriated costs. Pursuant to a Joint Budget Committee policy, certain costs associated with this bill are addressed through the annual budget process and centrally appropriated in the Long Bill or supplemental appropriations bills, rather than in this bill. These costs, which include employee insurance, supplemental employee retirement payments, and indirect cost assessments, are shown in Table 2.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature.

State Appropriations

For FY 2024-25, the bill requires an appropriation of \$280,928 to the Department of Early Childhood, and 2.7 FTE.

State and Local Government Contacts

Early Childhood

Human Services

Regulatory Agencies

The revenue and expenditure impacts in this fiscal note represent changes from current law under the bill for each fiscal year. For additional information about fiscal notes, please visit the [General Assembly website](#).