## (DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)

Declares an intent to: (1) Improve access and completion rates of student parents enrolled in community and technical colleges by reducing existing restrictions to subsidized child care; and

(2) Address the teacher shortage by allowing students receiving working connections child care program benefits to pursue certificates and degrees in teaching, paraeducation, and early childhood education, without losing their working connections child care program benefits.

Requires the department of early learning and the department of children, youth, and families, in consultation with the state board for community and technical colleges and the student achievement council, to revise rules: (1) That require applicants or consumers who are full-time students and who are not WorkFirst participants to work at least an average of twenty or more hours per week, or at least an average of sixteen hours or more per week in a federal or state work-study program, as a condition of receiving working connections child care program benefits;

- (2) Applicable to full-time students enrolled in community or technical or tribal colleges, to eliminate the work requirement as a condition of receiving working connections child care program benefits; and
- (3) Regarding the types of certificate and degree programs that applicants and consumers may pursue while receiving working connections child care program benefits, to include certificates and degrees in paraeducation and early childhood education.