

SB 5572-S - DIGEST

(DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)

Creates the access to quality child care workforce act.

Finds that, as of 2009, the challenges posed by low wages and lack of training that the legislature identified in enacting the child care career and wage ladder persist, and the availability of quality child care in the state continues to suffer.

Creates the possibility for a new relationship between child care center directors and workers and the state.

Gives child care center directors and workers the opportunity to work collectively to improve standards in their profession and to expand opportunities for educational advancement to ensure continuous quality improvement in the delivery of early learning services.

Creates a new type of collective bargaining for child care center directors and workers so they can bargain with the state over matters within the state's purview to improve the quality of child care for the state's families.

Affords child care center directors and workers the opportunity to bargain with the state only over the state's support for child care centers, a matter of common concern to both directors and workers.

Allows child care center directors and workers to maintain full membership in the organization that represents them in their efforts to improve the quality of child care they provide to the state's children.

Provides that the act: (1) Is not intended to create any unfunded mandates or financial obligations on child care centers covered by the act; and

(2) Shall be in effect only if funds are specifically appropriated for this purpose.