



State of Wisconsin
2019 - 2020 LEGISLATURE

LRB-5779/1
EHS:cjs

2019 SENATE BILL 889

March 12, 2020 - Introduced by Senators JOHNSON, ERPENBACH, RINGHAND and SMITH, cosponsored by Representatives SHANKLAND, BILLINGS, ANDERSON, CROWLEY, HEBL, KOLSTE, NEUBAUER, SARGENT, SUBECK, C. TAYLOR, ZAMARRIPA, SPREITZER and BROSTOFF. Referred to Committee on Public Benefits, Licensing and State-Federal Relations.

1 **AN ACT to amend** 49.175 (1) (p) of the statutes; **relating to:** child care provider
2 rates under Wisconsin Shares, funding for Wisconsin Shares child care
3 subsidies, and making an appropriation.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill increases funding for child care subsidies under the Wisconsin Shares program and requires the Department of Children and Families to increase maximum payment rates for licensed child care services provided under Wisconsin Shares no later than 30 days after the bill goes into effect.

The Wisconsin Works (W-2) program under current law, which is administered by DCF, provides work experience and benefits for low-income custodial parents who are at least 18 years old. Also, an individual who is the parent of a child under the age of 13 or, if the child is disabled, under the age of 19, who needs child care services to participate in various educational or work activities, and who satisfies other eligibility criteria may receive a child care subsidy for child care services under the W-2 program. This child care subsidy program is known as Wisconsin Shares.

Under current law, DCF is directed to allocate in each fiscal year specific amounts of money, including federal moneys received under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families block grant program, for various public assistance programs. Current law directs DCF to allocate \$365,700,400 in fiscal year 2020-21 for direct child care services under Wisconsin Shares. This bill increases that allocation to \$416,700,400.

The bill directs that DCF increase child care payment rates under Wisconsin Shares no later than 30 days after the bill goes into effect.

