



**Ninety-Ninth Legislature - Second Session - 2006  
Committee Statement  
LB 999**

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**Hearing Date:** January 25, 2006  
**Committee On:** Health and Human Services

**Introducer(s):** (Brown, Baker, Howard)  
**Title:** Change provisions relating to training requirements for providers of child care and program licensure

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**Roll Call Vote – Final Committee Action:**

- Advanced to General File
  - Advanced to General File with Amendments
  - X Indefinitely Postponed
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**Vote Results:**

5	Yes	Senator Cunningham, Erdman, Stuthman, Johnson and Howard
	No	
1	Present, not voting	Senator Jensen
1	Absent	Byars

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**Proponents:**

Senator Brown  
Marcia Corr  
  
Kathy Bigsby Moore

**Representing:**

Introducer  
Nebraska Department of Education/State Board of Education  
Voices for Children in Nebraska

**Opponents:**

**Representing:**

**Neutral:**

Dick Nelson  
Randy Jones

**Representing:**

Nebraska Health and Human Services System  
American Red Cross

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**Summary of purpose and/or changes:** LB 999 relates to training for providers of child care programs and the licensure of such programs.

Section 2 adds the following new training requirements for providers of child care and school-age care programs:

The following minimum annual training requirements would apply to program directors, onsite supervisors and staff employed twenty or more hours per week:

1. training in specified topic areas, and
  2. maintaining current certification in infant, child, and adult CPR and first aid.
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At least 8 hours of the training must be taught personally by a trainer, and may include distance learning technology. The Early Childhood Training Center (center) must develop training materials and procedures and identify recommended preparations and qualifications for effective trainers.

Remaining hours may be obtained through self-study using materials approved by the center or an accredited postsecondary educational institution.

Training requirements are waived for the first year of employment if required training or equivalent has been obtained within six months of commencing employment. Requirements do not apply to programs that exclusively offer before-and-after-school services for children enrolled in kindergarten through grade twelve.

A minimum of twelve (12) hours of training are required before July 1, 2007. Sixteen (16) hours are required from July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008. Twenty (20) hours are required on and after July 1, 2008.

The following minimum annual training requirements would apply to program staff employed less than twenty hours per week:

1. training in specified topic areas, and
2. maintaining current certification in infant, child, and adult CPR and first aid.

At least 6 hours of the training must be taught personally by a trainer, and may include distance learning technology. The Early Childhood Training Center (center) must develop training materials and procedures and identify recommended preparations and qualifications for effective trainers.

Remaining hours may be obtained through self-study using materials approved by the center or an accredited postsecondary educational institution.

Training requirements are waived for the first year of employment if required training or equivalent has been obtained within six months of commencing employment. Requirements do not apply to programs that exclusively offer before-and-after-school services for children enrolled in kindergarten through grade twelve.

A minimum of six (6) hours of training are required before July 1, 2007. Eight (8) hours are required from July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008. Twelve (12) hours are required on and after July 1, 2008.

The bill requires the department to coordinate with the State Department of Education to provide or arrange for statewide training opportunities. All programs licensed by the department under section 71-1911 would be subject to the training requirement. Social security numbers would be required of each director, onsite supervisor, and staff of licensed programs.

Section 3 requires tiered licensure of child care and early childhood education programs licensed under sections 71-1908 to 71-1917. The department is required to establish a two-tiered licensure system, except for programs that exclusively offer before-and-after-school services for children enrolled in kindergarten through grade twelve.

Tier I consists of programs that meet Tier II licensing requirements, have a history of compliance, and meet additional quality criteria established by the department that are reasonably calculated to influence program quality.

Tier II consists of programs that meet minimum applicable licensing requirements.

“Deemed status” is recognized for Tier I licensure. A Tier I program with deemed status must notify the department if accreditation or certification has been sanctioned, modified, terminated, or withdrawn. After the notice, the program may continue to operate as a Tier II program unless the department determines that the facility or services no longer meets applicable licensing standards.

The department must issue a certificate to each licensed program, indicating the tier under which the program is licensed, and such certificate must be posted in a prominent place on the licensed premises.

The department must adopt and promulgate rules and regulations on or before July 1, 2007.

Section 4 amends and harmonizes provisions in section 79-1102 relating to the Early Childhood Training Center.

**Explanation of amendments, if any:**

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**Senator Jim Jensen, Chairperson**