

Legislative Analysis



FAMILY CHILD CARE NETWORKS ACT

Phone: (517) 373-8080
<http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa>

House Bill 5043 (H-1) as reported from committee

Sponsor: Rep. Kelly Breen

Committee: Families, Children and Seniors

Complete to 10-5-21

Analysis available at
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

SUMMARY:

House Bill 5043 would create a new act, the Family Child Care Networks Act.

Upon appropriation, the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) would be required by the act to establish the family child care networks to support home-based child care providers in every **region** of the state. Funding would have to be disbursed equitably in a manner determined by MDE with family child care networks in every region.

Region would mean one of at least four areas of the state as determined by MDE to provide technical assistance to child care providers.

Development of framework

MDE would have to convene stakeholders to develop a framework for family child care networks based on the needs of **providers**. The framework would have to include at least all of the following:

- Business supports.
- Connections to peers.
- Operational supports.
- Program quality supports.
- Training and technical assistance.
- Engaging new providers.

Provider would mean a home-based group child care home or family child care home licensed under 1973 PA 116, known as the child care licensing act. Currently under that act, a family child care home is defined as a private home where up to six children are taken care of and supervised for compensation for periods of less than 24 hours at a time, and a group child care home is a private home where seven to 12 children are provided that supervision and care.

Requirements for networks

MDE would have to require networks to connect to the state's existing child care infrastructure and its quality and licensing system and also require them to participate in the following:

- A statewide community of practice.
- Professional development for network staff.
- Data collection and evaluation to measure success and improve the networks' responsiveness to providers.
- Require networks to connect to the state's existing child care infrastructure and its quality and licensing system.

Network services

A family child care network would have to offer or connect providers to services that include at least all of the following:

- Individual coaching.
- Training and professional development, including supporting developmental screenings, health and nutrition, program quality, and early childhood mental health consultation.
- Connections to peers.
- Operational supports, including assistance with licensing, subsidy billing, and recruiting families.
- Business services, including tax preparation, policies and procedures, and human resources support.

Annual report

MDE would have to submit an annual report of the activities and outcomes of each family child care network by region and the changes in the number of home-based providers in the state to the State Budget Office and the House and Senate appropriations committees on the MDE budget.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The bill would have no fiscal impact for the state or local units of government because the requirements of the bill are contingent on the direct appropriation of funds.

POSITIONS:

A representative of the Grand Rapids Chamber testified in support of the bill. (9-28-21)

The following entities indicated support for the bill:

- Michigan Department of Education (9-21-21)
- Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (9-21-21)
- Detroit Regional Chamber (9-21-21)
- Michigan Chamber (9-21-21)
- Northern Michigan Chamber Alliance (9-21-21)
- Talent 2025 (9-21-21)
- Michigan League for Public Policy (9-28-21)
- Flint Early Childcare Collaborative and Educare Flint (9-21-21)

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