

**First Regular Session  
Seventy-second General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**INTRODUCED**

LLS NO. 19-0498.01 Jacob Baus x2173

**SENATE BILL 19-063**

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**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Priola and Story,**

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Buentello and Valdez A.,**

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**Senate Committees**  
Health & Human Services

**House Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101      **CONCERNING A STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN TO ADDRESS INFANT AND**  
102      **FAMILY CHILD CARE HOME SHORTAGES IN COLORADO.**

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**Bill Summary**

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)*

The bill requires the department of human services (department), in consultation with the early childhood leadership commission (commission) and various stakeholders, to draft a strategic action plan addressing the declining availability of family child care homes and infant child care.

The bill requires the department to submit the completed strategic

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing statute.  
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

action plan to the commission, the state board of human services, the joint budget committee, the health and human services and education committees of the senate or any successor committees, and the public health care and human services and education committees of the house of representatives or any successor committees no later than December 1, 2019.

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1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1. Legislative declaration.** (1) The general assembly  
3 finds that:

4 (a) Family child care homes provide an essential element of the  
5 child care network in both urban and rural areas of the state;

6 (b) In certain counties, there are no child care centers, making  
7 family child care homes the only option working families have for  
8 licensed child care;

9 (c) Eighty-nine percent of child care businesses in the nation are  
10 owned by women, making the viability of child care businesses an  
11 important component of the state's economic success;

12 (d) Many parents prefer family child care homes, where children  
13 experience a home-like environment conducive to healthy and safe  
14 development;

15 (e) The state has a shortage of licensed, safe, and affordable child  
16 care options, and there is a growing need for child care facilities due to  
17 the increase in working parents;

18 (f) Since 2010, the state has experienced a decline of one thousand  
19 five hundred eighty-two family child care homes, at an average of  
20 approximately two hundred family child care homes closing each year;  
21 and

22 (g) Because infant child care is more often provided in family

1 child care homes than in child care centers, the decline of family child  
2 care homes has resulted in over seven thousand three hundred fewer  
3 infant slots in the state in 2018 than in 2010.

4 (2) The general assembly declares, therefore, that it is necessary  
5 that the state department, in consultation with the early childhood  
6 leadership commission, study the decline of family child care homes and  
7 available infant child care in the state to identify the reasons for these  
8 shortages and to recommend strategies for improving the recruitment and  
9 retention of family child care homes and available infant child care  
10 throughout the state.

11 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** part 2 to article  
12 6.2 of title 26 as follows:

13 PART 2

14 INFANT AND FAMILY CHILD CARE

15 STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN

16 **26-6.2-201. Family child care homes strategic action plan -**  
17 **creation - definitions.** (1) THE STATE DEPARTMENT AND THE  
18 COMMISSION SHALL CREATE A STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN TO ADDRESS THE  
19 DECLINE OF FAMILY CHILD CARE HOMES AND AVAILABLE INFANT CHILD  
20 CARE THROUGHOUT THE STATE.

21 (2) AS USED IN THIS PART 2, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE  
22 REQUIRES:

23 (a) "CHILD CARE CENTER" HAS THE SAME MEANING AS SET FORTH  
24 IN SECTION 26-6-102 (5).

25 (b) "FAMILY CHILD CARE HOME" HAS THE SAME MEANING AS SET  
26 FORTH IN SECTION 26-6-102 (13).

27 **26-6.2-202. Strategic action plan - requirements.** (1) THE

1 STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN CREATED IN SECTION 26-6.2-201 MUST INCLUDE,  
2 AT A MINIMUM:

3 (a) STATE-SPECIFIC RESEARCH CONCERNING THE LACK OF  
4 LICENSED FAMILY CHILD CARE HOMES AND AVAILABLE LICENSED INFANT  
5 CHILD CARE AND THE EFFECT IT HAS ON FAMILIES AND INFANTS;

6 (b) OBSTACLES TO OBTAINING AND RETAINING A FAMILY CHILD  
7 CARE HOME LICENSE AND RECOMMENDED STRATEGIES TO REDUCE THESE  
8 OBSTACLES;

9 (c) RESEARCH REGARDING THE REASONS WHY PROVIDERS STOP  
10 OPERATING LICENSED FAMILY CHILD CARE HOMES AND RECOMMENDED  
11 STRATEGIES TO ADDRESS THESE REASONS;

12 (d) RESEARCH REGARDING THE REASONS WHY LICENSED FAMILY  
13 CHILD CARE HOMES AND LICENSED CHILD CARE CENTERS DO NOT PROVIDE  
14 INFANT CHILD CARE AND RECOMMENDED STRATEGIES TO ADDRESS THESE  
15 REASONS;

16 (e) INFORMATION CONCERNING STATE AND LOCAL BUILDING,  
17 ZONING, LAND USE, BUSINESS LICENSING, AND PROPERTY TAX LAWS OR  
18 POLICIES THAT CREATE POSITIVE OR NEGATIVE CONDITIONS FOR  
19 OPERATING LICENSED FAMILY CHILD CARE HOMES OR PROVIDING INFANT  
20 CHILD CARE, AND RECOMMENDED LAWS OR POLICIES FOR STATE AND  
21 LOCAL JURISDICTIONS THAT WOULD IMPROVE CONDITIONS FOR OPERATING  
22 LICENSED FAMILY CHILD CARE HOMES OR PROVIDING INFANT CHILD CARE;

23 (f) THE EXTENT TO WHICH STATE CHILD CARE LICENSING  
24 REQUIREMENTS, QUALITY IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVES, AND THE COLORADO  
25 CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PROVIDE HEALTHY, SAFE, AND  
26 HIGH-QUALITY LICENSED CHILD CARE FACILITIES WHILE ALSO PROMOTING  
27 AVAILABLE AND AFFORDABLE FAMILY CHILD CARE HOMES AND INFANT

1 CHILD CARE;

2 (g) THE EXTENT TO WHICH PUBLIC INVESTMENTS IN CHILD CARE  
3 CREATE ADEQUATE INCENTIVES FOR OPERATING LICENSED FAMILY CHILD  
4 CARE HOMES OR PROVIDING INFANT CHILD CARE;

5 (h) A LIST OF AVAILABLE FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND GAPS IN  
6 AVAILABLE RESOURCES, TRAINING, AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE THAT  
7 WOULD ASSIST POTENTIAL FAMILY CHILD CARE HOME PROVIDERS IN  
8 BECOMING LICENSED AND STAYING IN BUSINESS;

9 (i) AN EXAMINATION OF AVAILABLE FINANCIAL RESOURCES,  
10 TRAINING, AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE THAT MAY BE AVAILABLE TO  
11 ASSIST POTENTIAL FAMILY CHILD CARE HOME PROVIDERS IN BECOMING  
12 LICENSED AND STAYING IN BUSINESS;

13 (j) THE ANTICIPATED COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH IMPLEMENTING THE  
14 RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN; AND

15 (k) RECOMMENDATIONS THAT DO NOT REQUIRE ADDITIONAL  
16 RESOURCES.

17 (2) THE STATE DEPARTMENT, IN PREPARING THE STRATEGIC  
18 ACTION PLAN, MUST CONSULT WITH, TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE:

19 (a) FAMILY CHILD CARE HOME PROVIDERS AND ORGANIZATIONS  
20 REPRESENTING THEM;

21 (b) CHILD CARE CENTERS AND ORGANIZATIONS REPRESENTING  
22 THEM;

23 (c) EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATORS AND ORGANIZATIONS  
24 REPRESENTING THEM;

25 (d) COUNTY DEPARTMENTS OF HUMAN OR SOCIAL SERVICES;

26 (e) COUNTIES AND MUNICIPALITIES;

27 (f) BUILDING, PLANNING, AND ZONING PROFESSIONALS AND

- 1 ORGANIZATIONS REPRESENTING THEM;
- 2 (g) EARLY CHILDHOOD COUNCILS AND ORGANIZATIONS  
3 REPRESENTING THEM;
- 4 (h) BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS;
- 5 (i) EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVOCACY AND POLICY ORGANIZATIONS AT  
6 THE STATE OR NATIONAL LEVEL WITH EXPERTISE ON STRATEGIES TO  
7 INCREASE AVAILABLE AND AFFORDABLE FAMILY CHILD CARE HOMES AND  
8 INFANT CHILD CARE;
- 9 (j) PARENTS OF INFANTS AND ORGANIZATIONS THAT REPRESENT  
10 THEM; AND
- 11 (k) ANY OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS OR ORGANIZATIONS.

12 (3) TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE, THE STATE DEPARTMENT MUST  
13 IDENTIFY RECOMMENDATIONS THAT HAVE SUPPORT AMONG THE PARTIES  
14 LISTED IN SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION. THE STATE DEPARTMENT  
15 MUST INDICATE THE EXTENT OF SUPPORT FOR RECOMMENDATIONS AMONG  
16 THE PARTIES LISTED IN SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION WITHIN THE  
17 STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN.

18 **26-6.2-203. Report.** ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1, 2019, THE  
19 STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL SUBMIT THE STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN TO THE  
20 COMMISSION, THE STATE BOARD OF HUMAN SERVICES, THE JOINT BUDGET  
21 COMMITTEE, THE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AND EDUCATION  
22 COMMITTEES OF THE SENATE OR ANY SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES, AND THE  
23 PUBLIC HEALTH CARE AND HUMAN SERVICES AND EDUCATION  
24 COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OR ANY SUCCESSOR  
25 COMMITTEES. THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL POST THE COMPLETED  
26 STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN ON THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S WEBSITE.

27 **26-6.2-204. Repeal of part.** THIS PART 2 IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE

1 JULY 1, 2020.

2           **SECTION 3. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
3 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the  
4 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August  
5 2, 2019, if adjournment sine die is on May 3, 2019); except that, if a  
6 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the  
7 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act  
8 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect  
9 unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in  
10 November 2020 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the  
11 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.