

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 59th Legislature (2023)

3 SENATE BILL 595

By: Garvin

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6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to child care; amending 10 O.S. 2021,
8 Section 405.4, which relates to education
9 requirements for child care centers; prohibiting the
10 Department of Human Services from imposing certain
11 requirement; authorizing establishment of certain
12 ratio; and providing an effective date.

13 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

14 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 10 O.S. 2021, Section 405.4, is
15 amended to read as follows:

16 Section 405.4. A. Any person with a bachelor's degree or
17 postgraduate degree shall be considered as having met the
18 educational requirements for a director of a full-time child care
19 center required by the Department of Human Services. Nothing in
20 this section shall be construed as to affect annual continuing
21 education requirements. The director of a child care center may
22 also qualify as a master teacher for children of all ages.

23 B. Any person replacing a master teacher at a child care center
24 shall be granted a one-year probationary period to fulfill the
25 educational qualifications required by the Department for a master

1 teacher. The Department may extend the probationary period an
2 additional year as long as the person is actively pursuing that
3 goal.

4 C. Licensed child care facilities opened or expanded before
5 November 1, 2016, shall have thirty-five (35) square feet of floor
6 area per infant in rooms occupied only by infants. New construction
7 and existing space not previously licensed for child care after
8 November 1, 2016, shall have forty (40) square feet of floor area
9 per infant in rooms occupied only by infants.

10 D. The Director of the Department shall not require child care
11 centers to have a master teacher for every classroom. However, the
12 Director may establish a ratio for master teachers to children.

13 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2023.

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