

1-1 By: Zaffirini S.B. No. 1555
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 11, 2021; March 24, 2021, read
1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Natural Resources &
1-4 Economic Development; April 23, 2021, reported adversely, with
1-5 favorable Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 9,
1-6 Nays 0; April 23, 2021, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

| | Yea | Nay | Absent | PNV |
|------|----------|-----|--------|-----|
| 1-8 | | | | |
| 1-9 | <u>X</u> | | | |
| 1-10 | <u>X</u> | | | |
| 1-11 | <u>X</u> | | | |
| 1-12 | <u>X</u> | | | |
| 1-13 | <u>X</u> | | | |
| 1-14 | <u>X</u> | | | |
| 1-15 | <u>X</u> | | | |
| 1-16 | <u>X</u> | | | |
| 1-17 | <u>X</u> | | | |

1-18 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 1555 By: Zaffirini

1-19 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-20 AN ACT

1-21 relating to establishing reimbursement rates for certain
1-22 child-care providers participating in the subsidized child-care
1-23 program administered by the Texas Workforce Commission.

1-24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-25 SECTION 1. Subchapter G, Chapter 2308, Government Code, is
1-26 amended by amending Section 2308.315 and adding Section 2308.3151
1-27 to read as follows:

1-28 Sec. 2308.315. REIMBURSEMENT RATES FOR CHILD-CARE
1-29 PROVIDERS [~~CHILD-CARE~~]. Each board shall establish and implement
1-30 graduated reimbursement rates for child-care providers
1-31 participating in the commission's subsidized child-care program
1-32 that align the commission's age groupings with the
1-33 child-to-caregiver ratios and group sizes adopted by the Health and
1-34 Human Services Commission. The graduated rates shall provide the
1-35 highest reimbursement rate to child-care providers that provide
1-36 care to children in the age group with the lowest
1-37 child-to-caregiver ratio. The commission shall supply any
1-38 demographic data needed by the board to establish the rates.

1-39 Sec. 2308.3151. REIMBURSEMENT RATES FOR TEXAS RISING STAR
1-40 PROGRAM PROVIDERS. (a) Each board shall establish graduated
1-41 reimbursement rates for child care based on the commission's Texas
1-42 Rising Star Program.

1-43 (b) The minimum reimbursement rate for a Texas Rising Star
1-44 Program provider must be greater than the maximum rate established
1-45 for a provider who is not a Texas Rising Star Program provider for
1-46 the same category of care. The reimbursement rate must be:

1-47 (1) at least five percent higher for a provider with a
1-48 two-star rating;

1-49 (2) at least seven percent higher for a provider with a
1-50 three-star rating; and

1-51 (3) at least nine percent higher for a provider with a
1-52 four-star rating.

1-53 (c) The Texas Rising Star Program rate differential
1-54 established in this section shall be funded with federal child-care
1-55 [child-care] development funds.

1-56 (d) The commission shall examine and implement strategies
1-57 to address the increased costs a Texas Rising Star Program provider
1-58 with a four-star or three-star rating would incur to provide care to
1-59 infants and toddlers due to low child-to-caregiver ratios for
1-60 children in those age groups. [Notwithstanding Subsection (b), a

2-1 ~~board may not reimburse a provider under the reimbursement rates~~
2-2 ~~provided by Subsection (b) before the date any revisions to rules~~
2-3 ~~recommended by the Texas Rising Star Program review work group~~
2-4 ~~under Section 2308.321 are adopted by the commission.]~~

2-5 SECTION 2. Not later than December 1, 2023, each local
2-6 workforce development board shall establish the child-care
2-7 reimbursement rates required under Section 2308.315, Government
2-8 Code, as amended by this Act.

2-9 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.

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