



HOUSE REPUBLICAN STAFF ANALYSIS

Bill:	House File 2514	House Committee: PASSED 2/10/26 (21-0)
Committee:	Health and Human Services	House Floor:
Floor Manager:	Rep. Ryan Weldon	Senate Floor:
Date:	February 23, 2026	Governor:
Staff:	Natalie Ginty (281-7479)	

Child Care Worker CCA

- This bill makes child care employees providing care directly to children eligible to receive Child Care Assistance if working at least 32 hours per week and have children enrolled in child care.
- DHHS has been providing this coverage through a pilot program since July 2023. 2,105 families have been served by the pilot with an average of 302% FPL.
- **Fiscal Note:** DHHS estimates it will cost \$11.7 million in FY27 and \$12.1 million in FY28. In FY25, the pilot program cost \$9.7 million.
 - The Child Care Development Fund had \$112 million in carryforward going into FY26. There is a projected carryforward of \$107 million in FY26 and \$91 million in FY27.

Section by Section Analysis

Section 1 (Iowa Code 237A.13A)

Codifies the child care assistance for child care workers pilot program.

A parent is eligible for CCA if they meet the following criteria:

- Are employed at a child care center or home that participates in CCA
- Works at least 32 hours per week providing child care directly to children and is a part of child-to-staff ratios
- Is not providing care to their own child
- Is not a substitute, assistant or owner of the child care facility

This section requires those eligible for CCA under this eligibility criteria to pay for copayments based on household income. Requires DHHS to adopt rules.

Amendment Analysis

H-8015 by Weldon – Adds an annual report to the legislature regarding state/federal cost breakdown, number of participating families/children, average gross household income of participants, and number of individuals by federal poverty level.