

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 59th Legislature (2024)

SENATE BILL 1718

By: Garvin

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to child care; amending 10 O.S. 2021, Section 405.4, which relates to floor space requirements; establishing space requirement for children other than infants; requiring the Department of Human Services to use certain rounding principles; and providing an effective date.

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

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

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

B. Any person replacing a master teacher at a child care center shall be granted a one-year probationary period to fulfill the 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. 1. 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 2. Licensed child care facilities shall have not less than
11 thirty-two (32) square feet of floor area per child, not including
12 infants.

13 3. When determining average square footage per child of
14 licensed child care facilities for the purpose of determining
15 compliance with floor area requirements, the Department shall
16 utilize basic rounding principles in which a number shall round up
17 to the nearest whole number if the fractional part of the number is
18 five-tenths (0.5) or greater or shall round down to the nearest
19 whole number if the fractional part of the number is forty-nine
20 hundredths (0.49) or fewer.

21 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2024.

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