| 1  | A bill to be entitled  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|----|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 2  | An act relating to child care subsidies for foster               |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3  | parents; amending s. 409.145, F.S.; providing an early           |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4  | education or child care subsidy for certain foster               |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5  | parents; providing an effective date.                            |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 7  | Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:        |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 8  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 9  | Section 1. Subsection (4) of section 409.145, Florida            |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10 | ) Statutes, is amended to read:                                  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 11 | 409.145 Care of children; quality parenting; "reasonable         |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 12 | and prudent parent" standardThe child welfare system of the      |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 13 | department shall operate as a coordinated community-based system |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 14 | of care which empowers all caregivers for children in foster     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15 | care to provide quality parenting, including approving or        |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 16 | disapproving a child's participation in activities based on the  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 17 | caregiver's assessment using the "reasonable and prudent parent" |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 18 | 3 standard.  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 19 | (4) FOSTER CARE ROOM AND BOARD RATES; ADDITIONAL SUBSIDY         |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 20 | FOR CHILD CARE EXPENSES  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 21 | (a) Effective July 1, 2018, room and board rates shall be        |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 22 | paid to foster parents as follows:                               |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 23 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|    | Monthly Foster Care Rate   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ļ  | Page 1 of 4  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

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24 6-12 Years 0-5 Years 13-21 Years Age Age Age 25 \$457.95 \$469.68 \$549.74 26 27 (b) Each January, foster parents shall receive an annual 28 cost of living increase. The department shall calculate the new 29 room and board rate increase equal to the percentage change in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, U.S. City 30 Average, All Items, not seasonally adjusted, or successor 31 32 reports, for the preceding December compared to the prior 33 December as initially reported by the United States Department 34 of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. The department shall make 35 available the adjusted room and board rates annually. Effective July 1, 2019, foster parents of level I 36 (C) 37 family foster homes, as defined in s. 409.175(5)(a) shall receive a room and board rate of \$333. 38 39 Effective July 1, 2019, the foster care room and board (d) 40 rate for level II family foster homes as defined in s. 41 409.175(5)(a) shall be the same as the new rate established for 42 family foster homes as of January 1, 2019. 43 (e) Effective January 1, 2020, paragraph (b) shall only apply to level II through level V family foster homes, as 44 45 defined in s. 409.175(5)(a).

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The amount of the monthly foster care room and board 47 rate may be increased upon agreement among the department, the 48 community-based care lead agency, and the foster parent. 49 From July 1, 2018, through June 30, 2019, community-(q) 50 based care lead agencies providing care under contract with the 51 department shall pay a supplemental room and board payment to 52 foster care parents of all family foster homes, on a per-child 53 basis, for providing independent life skills and normalcy 54 supports to children who are 13 through 17 years of age placed 55 in their care. The supplemental payment shall be paid monthly to 56 the foster care parents in addition to the current monthly room 57 and board rate payment. The supplemental monthly payment shall be based on 10 percent of the monthly room and board rate for 58 59 children 13 through 21 years of age as provided under this 60 section and adjusted annually. Effective July 1, 2019, such supplemental payments shall only be paid to foster parents of 61 62 level II through level V family foster homes. 63 In addition to the foster care room and board rate, a (h)

64 foster care parent who is required under s. 39.604 to place a 65 child in an early education or child care program and who 66 chooses a program in which the state subsidy from an early 67 learning coalition under part VI of chapter 1002 is insufficient to pay the full cost shall receive a payment of up to \$300 per 68 69 month to pay the difference between the amount of the subsidy 70 provided by the early learning coalition and the full cost of

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| 71 | the services. |    |      |     |       |          |        |      |    |       |  |
|----|---------------|----|------|-----|-------|----------|--------|------|----|-------|--|
| 72 | Section       | 2. | This | act | shall | take     | effect | July | 1, | 2020. |  |
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