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(Neb.)- More Neb. Families Could Qualify For Care Subsidy



By: Jeremy Anderson Posted at: 05/22/2013 04:12 PM

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) - A bill that would allow more working families in Nebraska to qualify for child care subsidies is headed to a final vote in the Legislature.

Lawmakers gave the measure second-round approval on Wednesday, after holding firm on a provision that would allow more children to receive the benefit. Some lawmakers questioned the size of the increase, which would cost the state an estimated \$857,000 in the next fiscal year.

Current law sets the income threshold at 120 percent of the federal poverty level, so a family of three making less than about \$23,400 would qualify. The bill would raise that threshold to 130 percent, or \$25,400.

Supporters noted that the child care subsidy includes work requirements and copays, based on what a family can afford.