- (viii) AN OPTOMETRIST;
- (IX) A physical therapist;
- [(ix) physician;] or
- (x) A podiatrist;
- (3) AN ACCREDITED CHRISTIAN SCIENCE PRACTITIONER; OR
- (4) A HEALTH CARE PROVIDER ORGANIZATION UNDER AS DEFINED BY THE FEDERAL FAMILY MEDICAL LEAVE ACT.
- (C) THE CERTIFICATE REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION DUE TO AN EMPLOYEE'S ILLNESS OR DISABILITY SHALL INCLUDE A PROGNOSIS ABOUT THE EMPLOYEE'S ABILITY TO RETURN TO WORK.
- (D) AN APPOINTING AUTHORITY MAY WAIVE THE REQUIRED CERTIFICATE OF ILLNESS UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION IF AN EMPLOYEE DOES NOT HAVE A HISTORY OF SICK LEAVE ABUSE.

[7-508.] 9-505.

- (a) [With the approval of the head of the employee's principal department or other independent unit, an] AN employee who is primarily responsible for the care and nurturing of a child may use, without certification of illness or disability, up to 30 days of accrued sick leave to care for the child during the period immediately following:
  - (1) the birth of the employee's child; or
  - (2) the placement of the child with the employee for adoption.
- (b) [With the approval of the head of the employee's principal department or other independent unit, an] AN employee who is secondarily responsible for the care and nurturing of a child may use, without certification of illness or disability, up to 10 days of accrued sick leave to care for the child during the period immediately following IF TWO EMPLOYEES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CARE AND NURTURING OF A CHILD, BOTH EMPLOYEES IN AGGREGATE MAY USE, WITHOUT CERTIFICATION OF ILLNESS OR DISABILITY, UP TO 40 DAYS, NOT TO EXCEED 30 DAYS FOR ONE EMPLOYEE, OF ACCRUED SICK LEAVE TO CARE FOR THE CHILD DURING THE PERIOD IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING:
  - (1) the birth of the employee's EMPLOYEES' child; or
  - (2) the placement of the child with the employee EMPLOYEES for adoption.
- (C) (1) AN EMPLOYEE WHO USES ACCRUED SICK LEAVE FOLLOWING THE BIRTH OF THE EMPLOYEE'S CHILD MAY NOT RECEIVE PAYMENT UNDER THIS SUBTITLE UNLESS THE EMPLOYEE GIVES THE EMPLOYEE'S IMMEDIATE SUPERVISOR INFORMATION REQUIRED BY GUIDELINES ISSUED BY THE SECRETARY ABOUT THE FAMILY MEDICAL LEAVE ACT OF 1993, 29 U.S.C. § 2601 ET SEQ.
- (2) AN EMPLOYEE WHO USES ACCRUED SICK LEAVE FOR ADOPTION PURPOSES MAY NOT RECEIVE PAYMENT UNDER THIS SUBTITLE UNLESS THE