

Chapter 564

(Senate Bill 379)

AN ACT concerning

Education – Child Care Subsidies – Mandatory Funding Levels

FOR the purpose of requiring the Governor to include in the State budget a certain appropriation to the Child Care Subsidy Program each fiscal year; requiring the Governor to appropriate certain funds in the State budget to increase the Child Care Subsidy Program reimbursement rates to a certain amount in certain fiscal years; and generally relating to the Child Care Subsidy Program.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Education
Section 1–101(f) and 9.5–111(a)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2014 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)

BY adding to
Article – Education
Section 9.5–111(d) and (e)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2014 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Education

1–101.

(f) “Department” means the State Department of Education.

9.5–111.

(a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

(2) “Analysis” means the market rate survey or an alternative method allowable under federal law.

(3) “Program” means the Child Care Subsidy Program.

(D) THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL STATE BUDGET AN APPROPRIATION FROM ALL FUND SOURCES FOR THE PROGRAM THAT IS NOT LESS

THAN THE TOTAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE PROGRAM IN FISCAL YEAR 2018 OR FISCAL YEAR 2019, WHICHEVER IS GREATER.

(E) THE GOVERNOR SHALL, FROM ALL FUND SOURCES, APPROPRIATE FUNDS IN THE ANNUAL STATE BUDGET IN AN AMOUNT SUFFICIENT TO RAISE THE PROGRAM'S REIMBURSEMENT RATES FOR EACH REGION TO:

(1) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020, NOT LESS THAN THE 30TH PERCENTILE OF THE MOST RECENT MARKET RATE SURVEY OR ITS EQUIVALENT IF AN ALTERNATIVE METHODOLOGY DEFINED BY THE DEPARTMENT IS USED;

(2) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021, NOT LESS THAN THE 45TH PERCENTILE OF THE MOST RECENT MARKET RATE SURVEY OR ITS EQUIVALENT IF AN ALTERNATIVE METHODOLOGY DEFINED BY THE DEPARTMENT IS USED; AND

(3) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022 AND EACH FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER, NOT LESS THAN THE 60TH PERCENTILE OF THE MOST RECENT MARKET RATE SURVEY OR ITS EQUIVALENT IF AN ALTERNATIVE METHODOLOGY DEFINED BY THE DEPARTMENT IS USED.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2018.

Approved by the Governor, May 8, 2018.