

UNOFFICIAL COPY OF SENATE BILL 569
EMERGENCY BILL

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5lr2390
CF 5lr1469

By: **Senators Lawlah, Hogan, Astle, Britt, Brochin, Conway, Currie,
DeGrange, Della, Dyson, Exum, Forehand, Frosh, Garagiola, Giannetti,
Gladden, Green, Grosfeld, Hollinger, Hughes, Jimeno, Jones,
Kasemeyer, Kelley, Klausmeier, Kramer, McFadden, Middleton, Mooney,
Pinsky, Ruben, Schrader, Stone, and Teitelbaum**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2005

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Purchase of Child Care - Appropriation**

3 FOR the purpose of providing that a certain appropriation for the purchase of child
4 care contained in the State budget for a certain fiscal year be used solely for the
5 purpose appropriated; requiring that there shall be no budgetary transfer to any
6 other program or purpose; providing that certain funds shall not revert to the
7 General Fund and shall remain available for a certain purpose for a certain
8 fiscal year; providing that, as permitted under federal law, certain funds shall
9 not revert to the Federal Fund and shall remain available for a certain purpose
10 for a certain fiscal year; making this Act an emergency measure; and generally
11 relating to the purchase of child care appropriation.

12 **Preamble**

13 WHEREAS, The Department of Human Resources is responsible for assisting
14 low-income families with accessing child care; and

15 WHEREAS, The Department of Human Resources has an allowance of more
16 than \$111,835,000 for FY 2005 for this purpose; and

17 WHEREAS, The Department of Human Resources has been placing low-income
18 working families on a waiting list for child care assistance since December 2002 due
19 to lack of sufficient funds; and

20 WHEREAS, The Department of Human Resources has placed more than 18,000
21 eligible, low-income children on the waiting list; and

22 WHEREAS, The risk has increased to these low-income children to suffer from
23 abuse or neglect or both by not being provided with the resources for appropriate child
24 care; and

1 WHEREAS, The risk has increased to these low-income children to be left home
2 alone without supervision or lack of a caregiver; and

3 WHEREAS, The Department of Human Resources thereby has compromised the
4 public safety of these children; and

5 WHEREAS, Sufficient funds have been budgeted to begin to serve these families
6 in accordance with the service priorities established under COMAR 07.07.06.07A; and

7 WHEREAS, The Department of Human Resources should offer child care
8 assistance to children of low-income working families on the waiting list, in
9 accordance with the service priorities in COMAR 07.07.06.07A; now, therefore,

10 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
11 MARYLAND, That the appropriation contained in the State budget for the fiscal year
12 ending June 30, 2005, program N00G00.09, Purchase of Child Care may be used
13 solely for the purpose appropriated, and there shall be no budgetary transfer to any
14 other program or purpose.

15 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, notwithstanding any
16 other provision of law, for fiscal year ending June 30, 2005, general funds
17 appropriated in connection with program N00G00.09, Purchase of Child Care that
18 remain unexpended at the end of the fiscal year shall not revert to the General Fund
19 and shall remain available for expenditure on the Purchase of Child Care program in
20 the subsequent fiscal year.

21 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, to the extent otherwise
22 permitted by federal law, for fiscal year ending June 30, 2005, federal funds
23 appropriated in connection with program N00G00.09, Purchase of Child Care that
24 remain unexpended at the end of the fiscal year shall not revert to the Federal Fund
25 and shall remain available for expenditure on the Purchase of Child Care program in
26 the subsequent fiscal year.

27 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency
28 measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health or safety,
29 has been passed by a ye and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members
30 elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from
31 the date it is enacted.