

HOUSE BILL 396

O4, F1, O3

0lr1419

By: **Delegates Guyton, Cain, Forbes, Hettleman, Kerr, Metzgar, Palakovich Carr, and P. Young**

Introduced and read first time: January 22, 2020

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Child Care Centers – Early Childhood Screening for Developmental Disabilities**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring, beginning on a certain date, certain child care centers to
4 offer early childhood screening for developmental disabilities for certain children in
5 a certain manner; requiring certain child care centers to have on-site an individual
6 who has completed a certain training program approved by the State Department of
7 Education; authorizing the Department to approve a certain training program only
8 if the program demonstrates certain best practices; requiring certain child care
9 centers to make a certain offer, provide a certain screening, and provide a certain
10 referral under certain circumstances; and generally relating to screening for
11 developmental disabilities at child care centers.

12 BY adding to

13 Article – Education

14 Section 9.5–413.1

15 Annotated Code of Maryland

16 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

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

19 **Article – Education**

20 **9.5–413.1.**

21 **(A) (1) BEGINNING JULY 1, 2021, EACH CHILD CARE CENTER THAT IS**
22 **REQUIRED TO BE LICENSED OR TO HOLD A LETTER OF COMPLIANCE UNDER THIS**
23 **SUBTITLE SHALL OFFER EARLY CHILDHOOD SCREENING FOR DEVELOPMENTAL**
24 **DISABILITIES FOR EACH CHILD UNDER THE AGE OF 3 YEARS IN THE CHILD CARE**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 CENTER IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SECTION.

2 (2) EACH CHILD CARE CENTER SHALL HAVE ON-SITE, AS NECESSARY
3 TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION, AN INDIVIDUAL WHO HAS
4 COMPLETED A TRAINING PROGRAM IN EARLY CHILDHOOD SCREENING AND
5 INTERVENTIONS FOR DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES THAT IS APPROVED BY THE
6 DEPARTMENT.

7 (3) THE DEPARTMENT MAY APPROVE A TRAINING PROGRAM ONLY IF
8 THE PROGRAM DEMONSTRATES BEST PRACTICES FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD
9 SCREENING AND INTERVENTIONS FOR DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES.

10 (B) A CHILD CARE CENTER THAT IS REQUIRED TO BE LICENSED OR TO HOLD
11 A LETTER OF COMPLIANCE UNDER THIS SUBTITLE SHALL:

12 (1) OFFER TO THE PARENT OR GUARDIAN OF EACH CHILD UNDER THE
13 AGE OF 3 YEARS A SCREENING OF THE CHILD FOR DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
14 PERFORMED BY THE INDIVIDUAL AT THE CENTER WHO COMPLETED A TRAINING
15 PROGRAM APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT;

16 (2) IF A PARENT OR GUARDIAN ACCEPTS THE OFFER UNDER ITEM (1)
17 OF THIS SUBSECTION, PROVIDE TO THE CHILD A SCREENING FOR DEVELOPMENTAL
18 DISABILITIES PERFORMED BY THE INDIVIDUAL AT THE CENTER WHO COMPLETED
19 THE TRAINING PROGRAM; AND

20 (3) IF THE INDIVIDUAL WHO PERFORMS THE SCREENING UNDER ITEM
21 (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION DETERMINES THAT THE CHILD MAY NEED FURTHER
22 EVALUATION, PROVIDE TO THE PARENT OR GUARDIAN OF THE CHILD A REFERRAL
23 TO AN APPROPRIATE PROGRAM.

24 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
25 1, 2020.